

Title of Lab:

Earth's Layers Lab

Purpose(s) of Lab:

The student will be able to observe and demonstrate the relative thickness of each layer of the Earth.

Materials:

- Colored paper (4 different colors, 1 for each layer)
- White paper (for background)
- Scissors
- Metric ruler
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Glue

Procedure:

1. Crust: measure a 22 cm circle to represent the crust
Mantle: measure a 21 cm circle to represent the mantle
Outer Core: measure a 13 cm circle to represent the outer core
Inner Core: measure a 6 cm circle to represent the inner core
2. Beginning with the crust, glue each layer, centered, on top of the next.
3. Each layer should have a label that includes both the name of the layer AND the thickness of each layer in miles. (Refer to notes, websites, etc.)

Results

Take a picture of your model and insert it into your lab report.

Questions:

- Why is using a model like this a good way to learn about the layers of the earth?
- What is the problem with using this kind of model?
- How has your perception of the thickness of the Earth's crust changed from doing this lab?
- Jules Vern wrote a science fiction novel called "Journey to the Center of the Earth" in which 2 explorers hike to the center of the Earth. Write a brief paragraph explaining the challenges they would face at each of the 4 layers.