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# Activities

## Voyage to Pluto

Name: _____ Date: _____

Pluto was "demoted" from its status as a planet but it won't be forgotten. In January 2006, NASA launched New Horizons to visit Pluto. If all goes well, the probe will reach the dwarf planet in 2015. In this Planet Diary activity, you'll learn all about the probe's trek to the edge of the solar system.

### Directions

- Read this Planet Diary report on the New Horizons launch. Use the information to answer Workspace questions 1 through 3.
- About a year after its launch, New Horizons reached Jupiter. Read this Planet Diary summary, then answer question 4.
- Go to the New Horizons multimedia gallery for a closer look at the probe. Click *Designed Specially for Pluto* in the *Related Multimedia* column. Use the video player controls to pause or rewind. Answer question 5.
- Go to this NASA podcast and click *Listen Now*. Then answer the last question.
- Where is the probe right now? Get the latest New Horizons updates here.

### Workspace

1. Why can't New Horizons rely on solar power like other space probes?

2. How does the space probe get its power?

3. How did Jupiter help propel the probe?

4. What did the probe learn on its Jupiter fly-by?

5. List three things the probe will gather data about on Pluto.

6. In your opinion, is it important to explore Pluto? Why or why not?

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