

- Use the fact sheets and the sheet 'Criteria for deciding what is a planet' to help you do this task.
- Start with the Earth then try other objects, including Pluto.
- For each piece of evidence (size, shape, orbit etc) decide whether the evidence suggests that the object **IS** or **IS NOT** a planet and tick the appropriate box (if the evidence is not clear-cut, tick both boxes).
- Fill in the last column by rating the importance of each type of evidence on a scale of one to five.
- Count the number of ticks 'for' and 'against' the object being a planet and take note of the 'importance factor' to come to a conclusion about whether or not the object is a planet.

**Name of object in space** .....

EVIDENCE	EVIDENCE THAT SUGGESTS THE OBJECT <b>IS</b> A PLANET	EVIDENCE THAT SUGGESTS THE OBJECT <b>IS NOT</b> A PLANET	HOW IMPORTANT THE EVIDENCE IS ON A SCALE OF 1-5 <i>1 is most important</i> <i>5 is least important</i>
size -is the object big enough to be called a planet?			
shape			
orbit			
orbit inclination			
distance from the Sun			
what is it made from?			
temperature			
does it shine on its own?			
number of ticks			

We think that ..... is / is not a planet (delete according to your decision).

Our reasons are: