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Poles, parking lots, and Mount Piton. Classroom activities that combine astronomy, history, and mathematics.

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Summary: This article describes how a series of lessons might be used to allow students to discover the size of the Earth, the distance to the Moon, the size of the Moon, and the altitude of Mount Piton on the Moon. Measurement with a sextant, principles of geometry and trigonometry, and historically important scientists and mathematicians are discussed.

Classification: M53 M13

Keywords: interdisciplinary approach; astronomy; history; mathematical applications; trigonometry; geometry; measurement; student activities

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