Lenart Sphere

What does the box contain?

We all live on a sphere. Why should we fear to know about geometries different from the geometry of the plane? Spherical geometry, if properly taught, is not more difficult than the geometry of the plane. Comparison between the two geometries leads not only to better understanding of spherical geometry, but also to deeper understanding and knowledge of plane geometry. The Lénárt Sphere is of great help in comparing the sphere and the plane. What is included in the box?

1. First of all, one transparent plastic sphere ...
2. and a donut-shaped torus that serves as a base for the sphere (and as another interesting geometric surface on which to experiment)...
3. The hemispherical transparencies fit over the sphere. They are the 'paper' for your spherical 'tabletop'. You can draw on them with the markers, or cut them into various shapes with scissors.

4. With the non-permanent markers in the set you can draw, then erase your drawings with a damp cloth or paper towel.
5. You can join two transparencies with the plastic hanger or hoop to form a hanging sphere on which you can show the spherical drawing or construction.
6. You can use the spherical straightedge or ruler to draw and measure great circles and arcs of great circles, the spherical equivalents of straight lines and segments on the plane.
7. The plastic needle of the compass trunk cannot be stuck into the sphere. So you are advised to mark out the centre of the circle first, then to put the UFO (centre locator) on the centre of the circle. The small hole at the middle of the UFO should be exactly over the marked centre. The tip of the plastic needle should be put into the small hole of the UFO. You find the UFO in a small transparent bag, together with the collars of the compass set.
8. The shape of the spherical protractor is similar to the shape of the UFO (centre locator), but much bigger in size. You can measure spherical angles in degrees with this protractor.
9. 'The Living Earth on the Lénárt Sphere' poster includes polyconic projections of the earth's northern and southern hemispheres. You can cut out the projections, and make a spherical map to display as a draw-on globe on your Lénárt Sphere, or with two transparencies and a hanger. You can draw any figure on the transparencies, and erase them without making any damage to the map under the transparency.
10. The Getting Started booklet introduces the tools in the set, and describes some simple experiments that you can directly try out on the sphere.

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