

The Distance of the Fifteen Brightest Stars
 (Taken from the Utah State Science Teacher Resource Book, 2005, pages 11.2.4)

Star	Constellation	Actual Distance	Scale Distance 1 light year = 1 mile
The Sun to Pluto		5.5 light hours	39.5 inches
Alpha Centauri*	(Southern Hemisphere)	4.5 light years	4.5 miles
Sirius	Canis Major	8.6 light years	8.6 miles
Procyon	Canis Minor	11 light years	11 miles
Altair	Aquila	17 light years	17 miles
Vega	Bootes	25 light years	25 miles
Fomalhaut	Piscis Austrinus	25 light years	25 miles
Pollux	Gemini	34 light years	34 miles
Arcturus	Bootes	37 light years	37 miles
Capella	Auriga	42 light years	42 miles
Aldebaran	Taurus	65 light years	65 miles
Regulus	Leo	77 light years	77 miles
Antares	Scorpius	197 light years	197 miles
Spica	Virgo	262 light years	262 miles
Betelgeuse	Orion	522 light years	522 miles
Rigel	Orion	773 light years	773 miles
Deneb	Cygnus	1467 light years	1467 miles

*Alpha Centauri is not one of the fifteen brightest stars. It is included for comparison since it is the next nearest star to our solar system.