



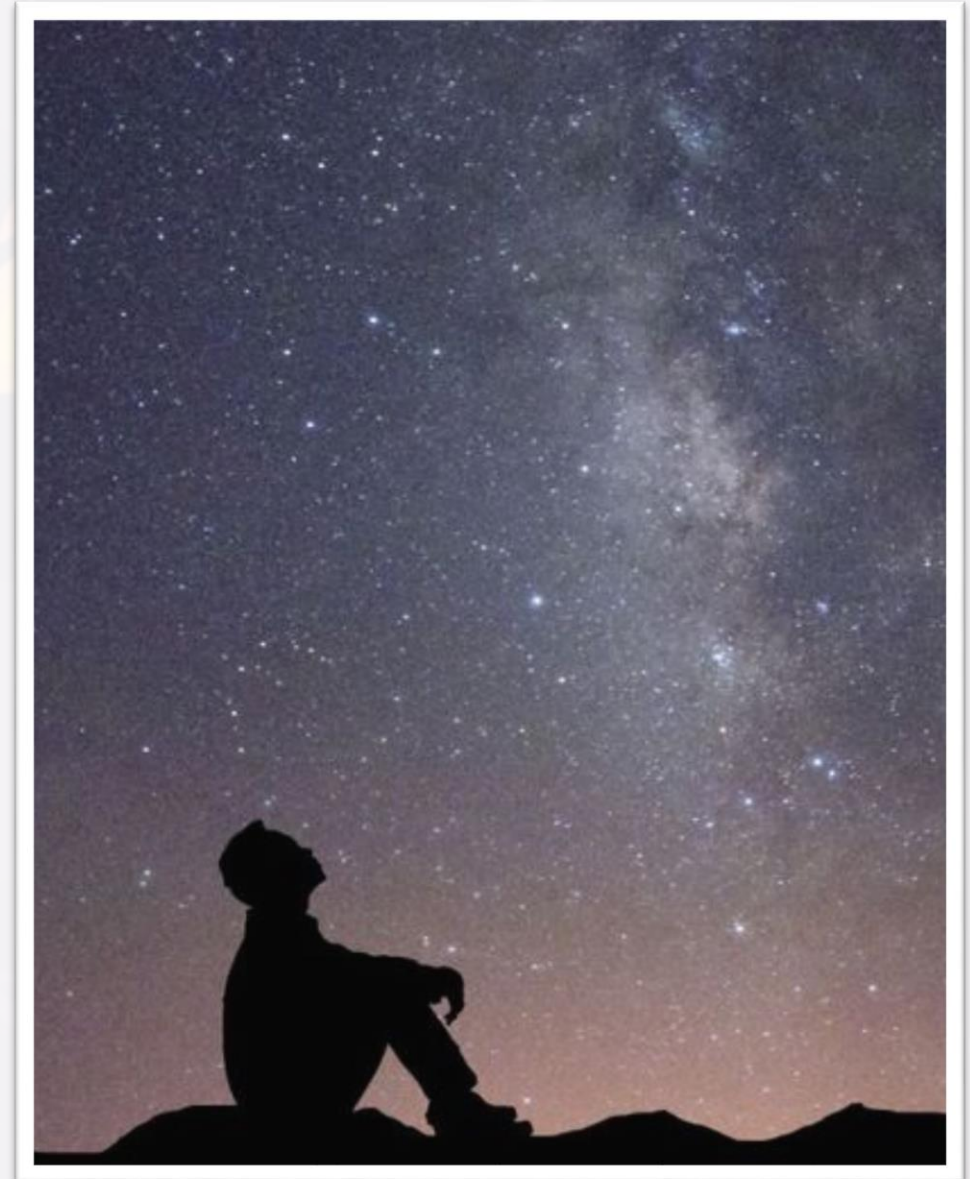
Outer Space: The Solar System

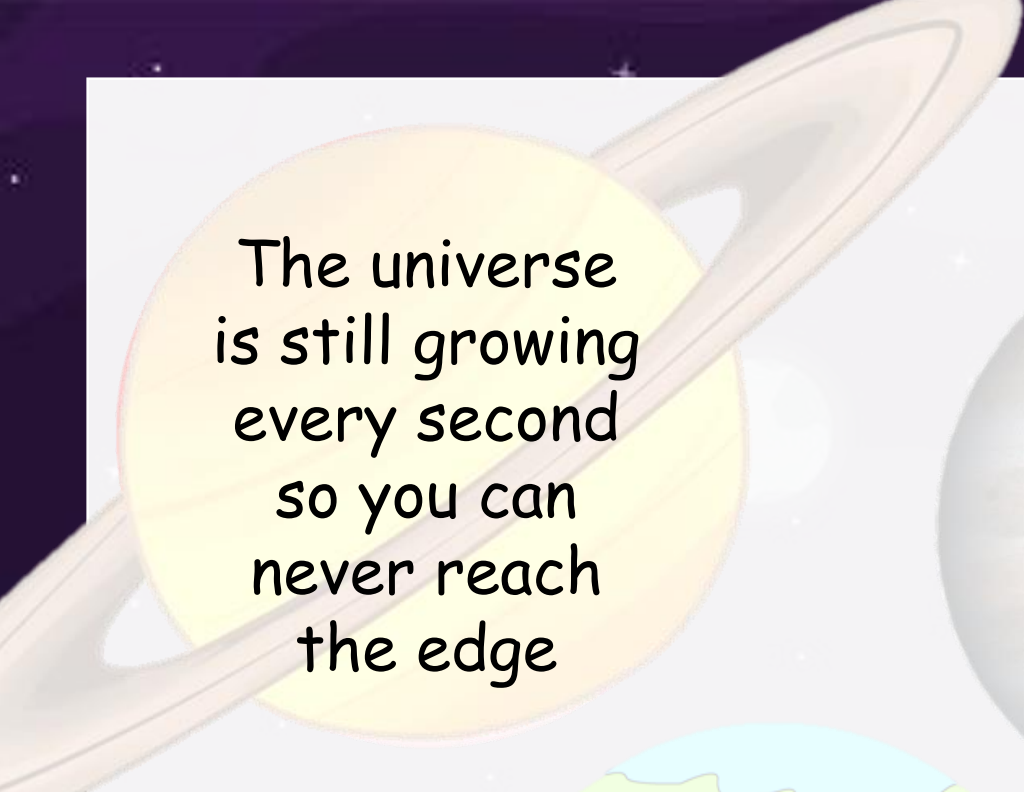
W.A.L.T: understand what
the solar system is and
what you would find in it

What do you already
know about space, the
universe and the solar
system?
Think, Pair, Share.

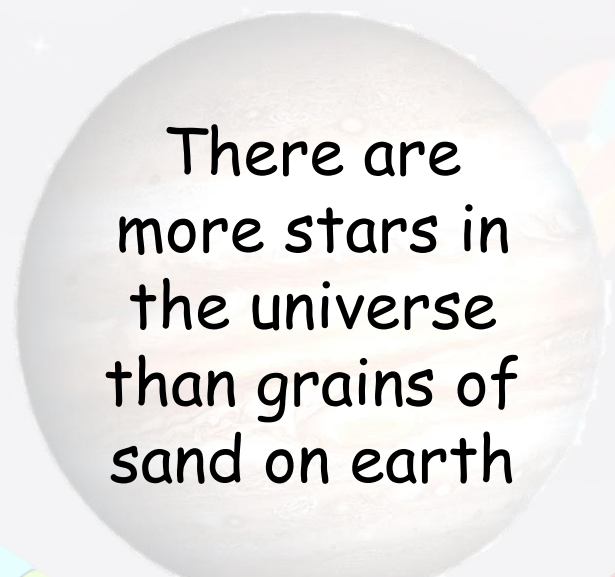


When we talk about the universe we mean everything single thing that exists. That means every piece of dust, every bit of energy and every single thing that is on earth and beyond. Here are some mind-boggling universe facts

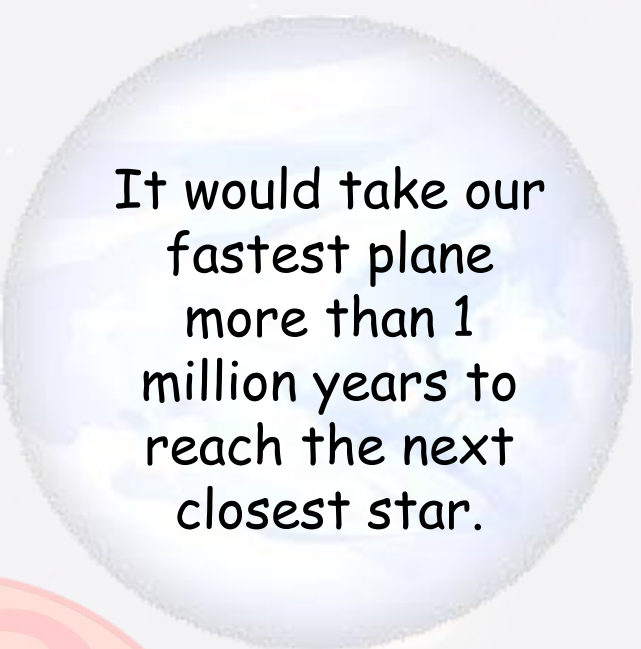




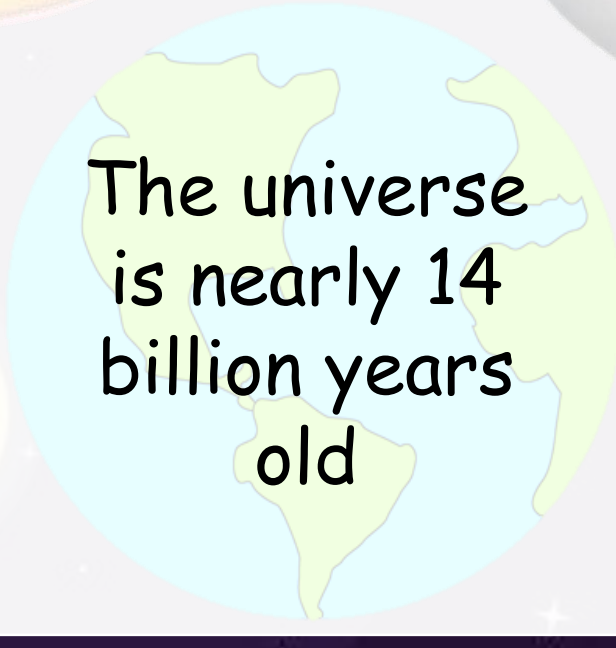
The universe
is still growing
every second
so you can
never reach
the edge



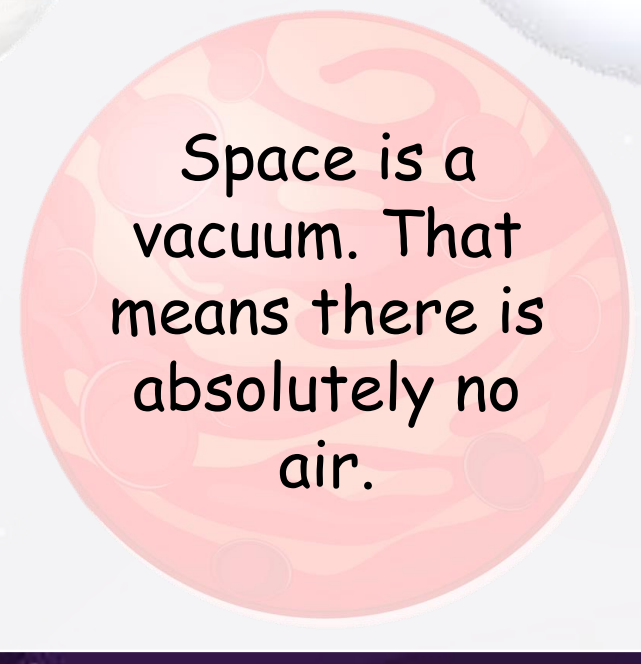
There are
more stars in
the universe
than grains of
sand on earth



It would take our
fastest plane
more than 1
million years to
reach the next
closest star.



The universe
is nearly 14
billion years
old

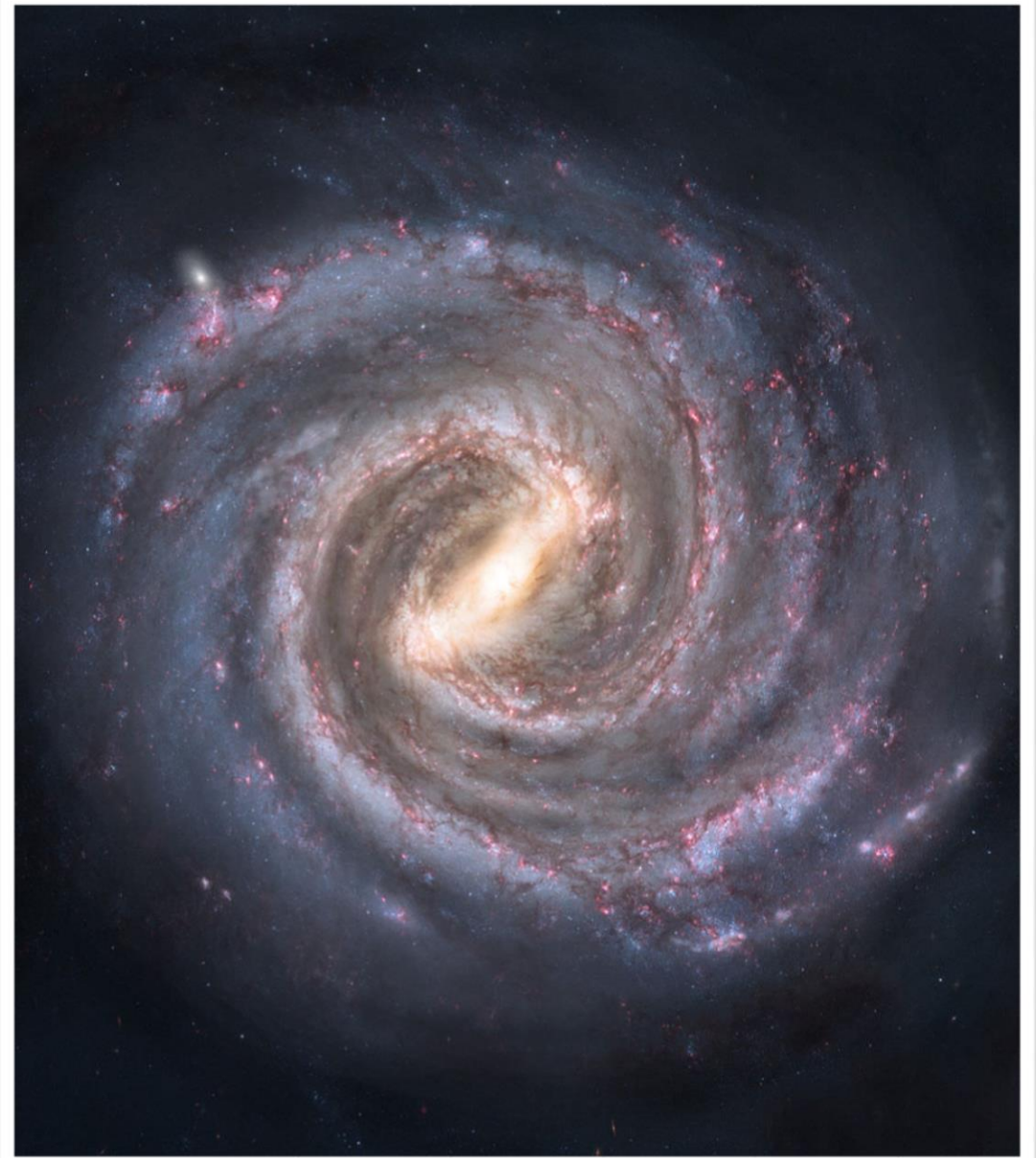


Space is a
vacuum. That
means there is
absolutely no
air.

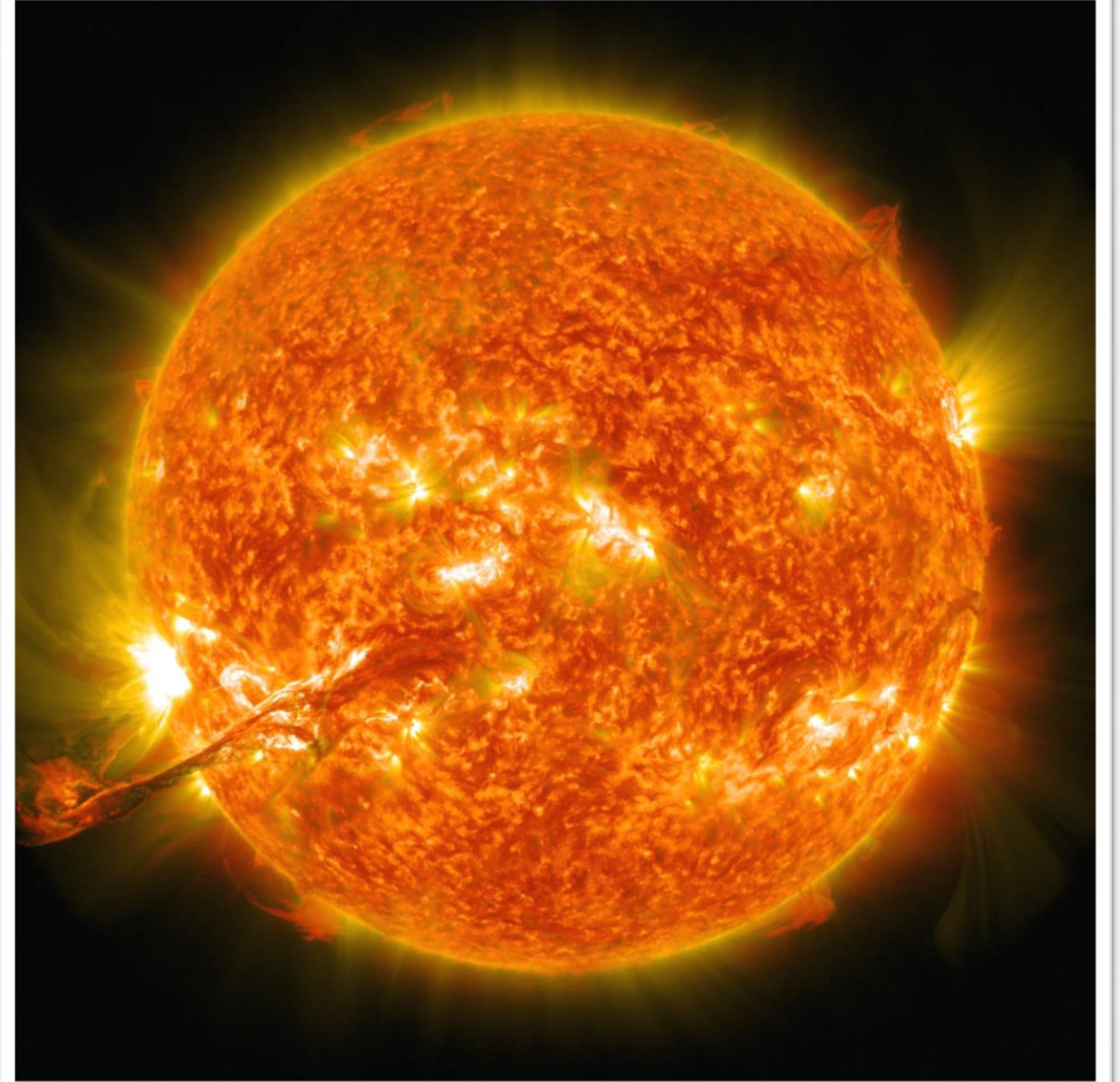
Does your brain hurt as much as mind? Sometimes the sizes and distances involved with space are too huge for our brains to handle!



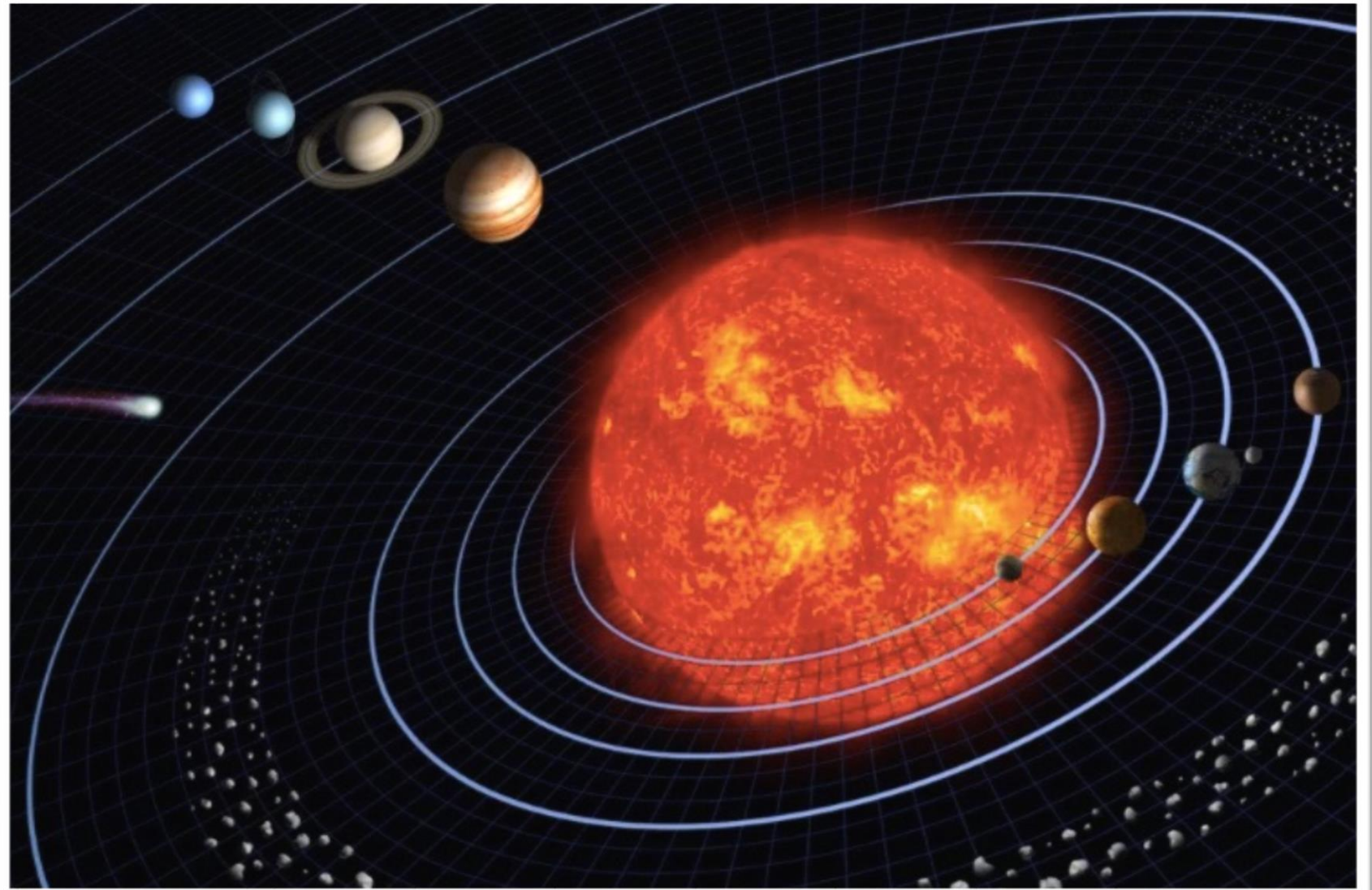
Within the ever-growing universe are small pockets of energy called galaxies. These are collections of lots of stars in an particular area of the universe. Our galaxy is called the Milky Way. Inside the Milky Way is our tiny solar system.



When we talk about the Solar System, we are talking about everything that spins around the sun. This can include planets, moons, stars, asteroids, comets and other space junk! All of these things orbit, or go around the sun!



With a partner, make a list of all the planets you can see. What else can you see in this picture of the solar system?

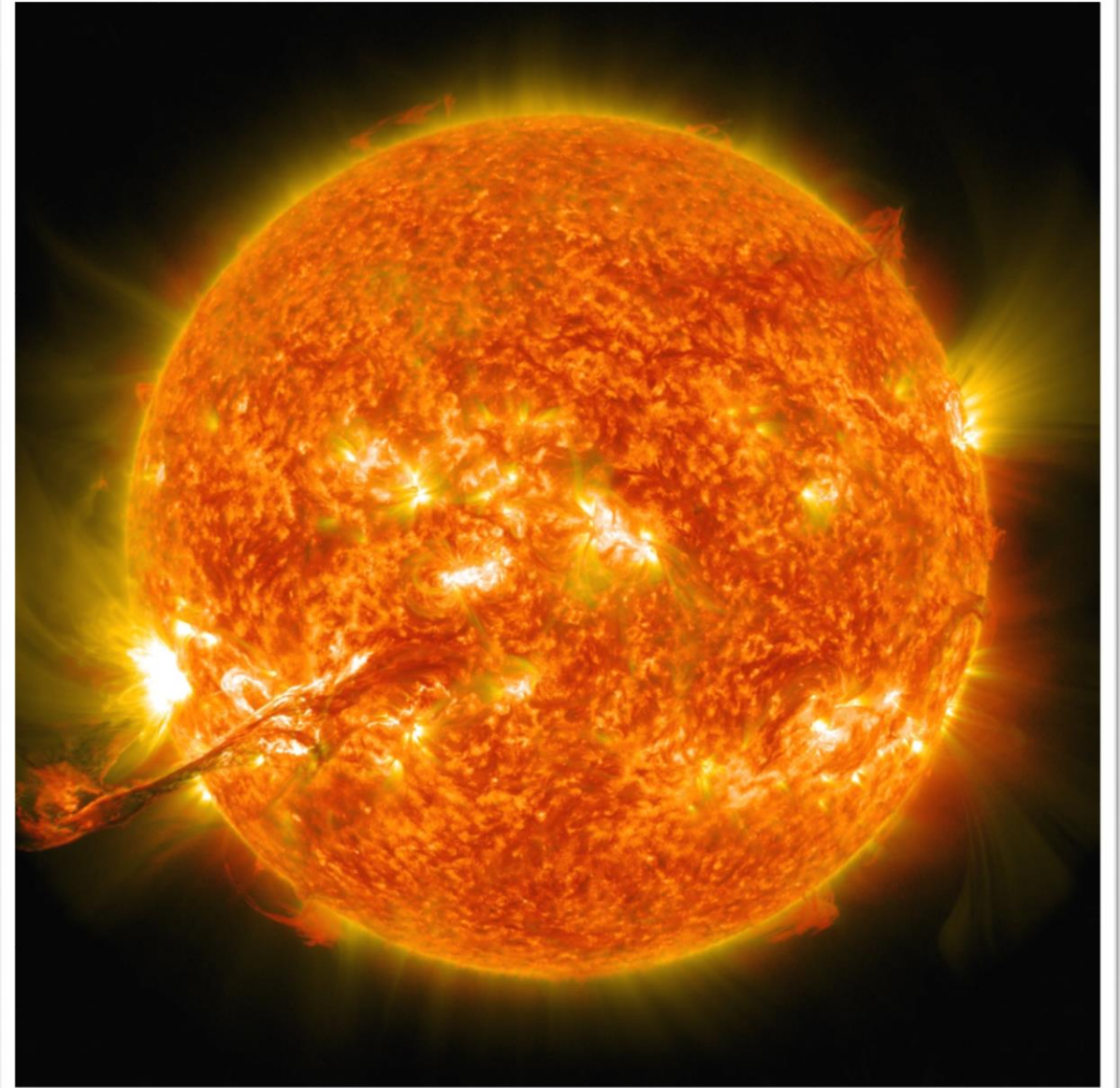


What is the sun?

Think, Pair,
Share.



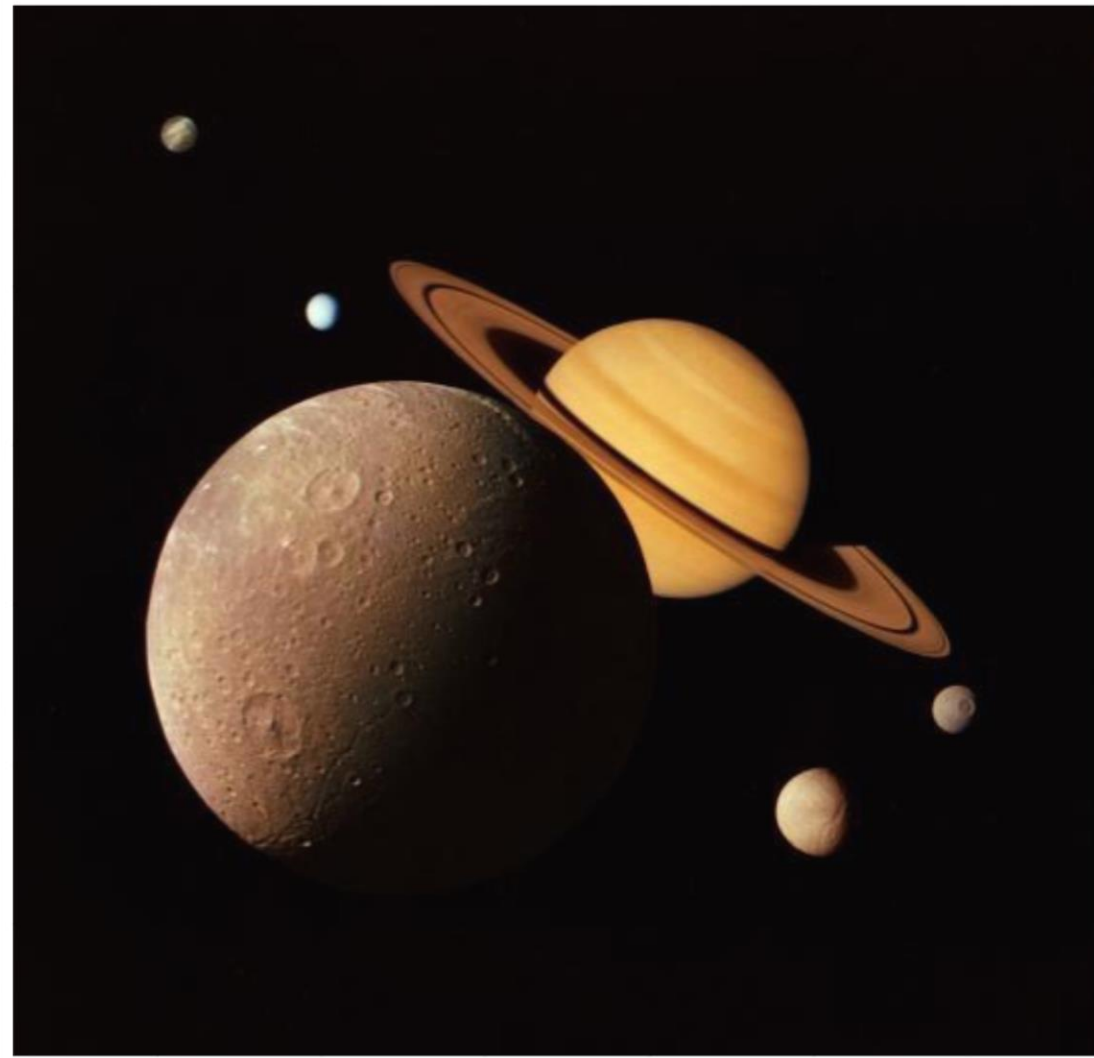
The sun is a star. Stars are huge balls of exploding gas. Remember, there are billions of stars in our universe. The sun just happens to be the closest to earth! And just as well, because the sun produces all our heat and light. Without it, there would be no life on Earth!



What else is there in the solar system other than the sun and planets?

Think, Pair, Share.





Most of the planets have moons which orbit them. Some planets, like Earth have one moon. Others, like Saturn have many moons! Saturn has a total of 82 different moons!

Asteroids are big pieces of rock and metal that fly through our solar system. Sometimes these asteroids crash into planets or moons. If you look closely at the moons surface you can see craters where asteroids have crashed. Asteroids have landed on earth too!





Comets are a bit like asteroids but they are made up of dust, gas and ice. Comets orbit the sun just like the planets and moons. Sometime bits break off comets and turn into meteors. These are seen as 'shooting stars' on earth.

Activity Time

We're going on a fact hunt! You're going to pair up with a group and try find the answers to some 'Solar System' related questions. The fact cards are hidden around the area. Be careful though, there might be more than one answer on each card!

READY?

