YOUR PASSPORT ON YOUR TOUR OF THE TELESCOPES

Is the light from the object you are seeing in the telescope coming from:

Our Solar System?

Our Milky Way Galaxy?

Or the Universe outside of our Galaxy?

Light travels 186,000 miles each second!

Consider how long that light was traveling before it reached your eye.

Keep a log of each object you see on your tour!



NASA has powerful telescopes discovering the secrets of the Universe – looking back to the beginnings of the Universe over 13 billion years ago.

Learn more about NASA Science: https://science.nasa.gov/

CREDIT: Adapted with permission from NASA's Night Sky Network, http://go.nasa.gov/nightskynetwork



The Statewide Star Party is made possible by the generous grant support of the North Carolina Space Grant.



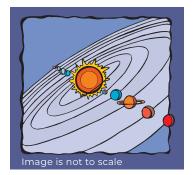
PASSPORT THROUGH TIME



Looking through a telescope is like jumping into a time machine.

The light we see from most objects out in space has been traveling from a few minutes to millions or even billions of years.

SOLAR SYSTEM



Most light we see from objects in our solar system has traveled for minutes or hours.



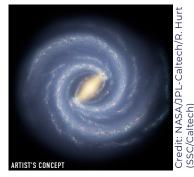
Moonlight takes less than 2 seconds to reach you. Sunlight takes about 8 minutes. Light from Saturn has traveled for over an hour. Light from Pluto's surface has traveled about 5 hours.

Where were you when the light from the planet you saw tonight started on its way to your eye?

WHAT I SAW IN OUR SOLAR SYSTEM:

Sun: ______ Moon: ______ Planet: ______ Satellite: ______

MILKY WAY GALAXY



Light from objects in our Galaxy has traveled a few years to thousands of years.

few years thousands of years

All the individual stars you see when you look up at the sky, or through the telescope, are in our Milky Way Galaxy.

Some of the light you see began its journey before your grandparents were born, or even before the Great Pyramid was built.

WHAT I SAW IN OUR MILKY WAY GALAXY:

Star nursery: _____

Young star cluster:_____

Dying or exploded star: _____

Old star cluster:_____

Double star: _____

A UNIVERSE OF GALAXIES



Most light from other galaxies has traveled millions to billions of years.



As we look past the stars in our Milky Way Galaxy, we can peek out and see other galaxies in the rest of the Universe.

Some of the light started its journey before modern humans were on Earth, some before the time of the dinosaurs, and some even before Earth existed!

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