

Reader's Theater Script:

Galaxies Galore

Adapted from *Space in 30 Seconds* by Clive Gifford and
The Complete Guide to Space by Amanda Askew

Characters:

Star 1
Star 2
Star 3
Star 4
Star 5

Script:

Star 1: A galaxy is a collection of gas, dust, stars, and planets. Earth's home galaxy is the Milky Way. The Milky Way is part of a cluster or collection of galaxies known as the Local Group.

Star 2: Galaxies that are part of the Local Group include Andromeda, the Triangulum galaxy, and Canis Major Dwarf, as well as several others that have only recently been discovered.

Star 3: Our sun is just one of the 200 billion stars in the Milky Way galaxy.

Star 4: The universe contains lots of galaxies. Each galaxy is made of gas, dust, stars, and planets. They are so far away from the Milky Way and our solar system that most are impossible to see.

Star 5: One of the closest galaxies to the Milky Way is Andromeda. This galaxy contains as many as 800 billion stars. It is moving toward the Milky Way at 87 miles per second.

Star 1: Even at this rate, it will take more than 3 billion years for the two galaxies to reach each other.

Star 2: Astronomers place galaxies into broad groups based on their overall shape. Galaxies can be spiral, elliptical, or irregular.

Star 3: Spiral galaxies are round in shape with large spirals circling out from the center of the galaxy. Most spirals have between one billion and one trillion stars.

Star 4: Elliptical galaxies are egg shaped. There are both giant elliptical galaxies and dwarf elliptical galaxies. Giants are rare and can have ten times the amount of stars as the Milky Way.

Star 5: Irregular galaxies do not have a regular shape. They are small in size and contain a lot of gas.

Star 1: At the center of galaxies are supermassive black holes. Black holes suck in everything around them.

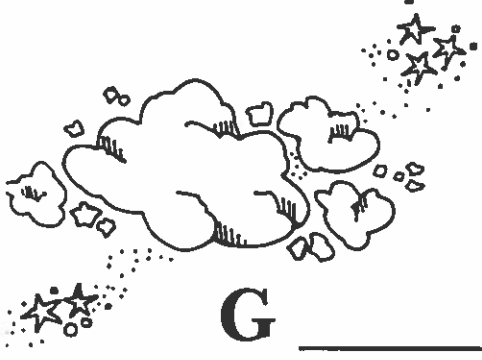
Star 2: No one has ever seen a black hole. Based on what we know, no object can ever escape a black hole.

Star 3: We know a lot about galaxies because of the work of great astronomers such as Edwin Hubble.

Star 4: He proved that there were galaxies beyond the Milky Way. The Hubble Space Telescope is named after him.

Star 5: We learn more about the universe all the time. Maybe you will be the next great astronomer to discover something amazing in our galaxy!

Space Jams Acrostic Poem



G _____

A _____

L _____

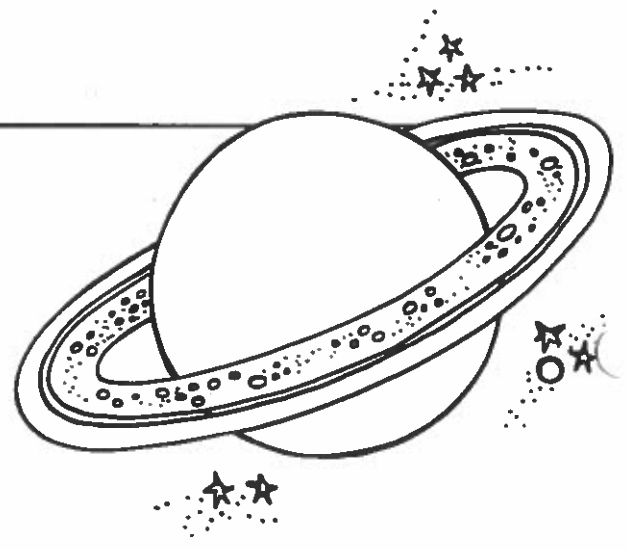
A _____

C _____

T _____

I _____

C _____



Example

Space Jams Acrostic Poem



G ravity

A mong

L uminous

A toms

C ollide

T ogether with

I nterstellar dust

C reates beauty

