





Shooting stars Luna Scope – you can't blast off into space just like that! Space blast off into space just like that! Space exploration is FULL of unexpected twists, turns and black holes\*. You need to know your space stuff first! You need G.A.S.P!

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Granny's Astronaut

Granny's Astronaut

\*BLACK HOL

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In 2019, computer scientist

Katie Bouman pioneered new technology that produced the first ever image of a black hole a whopping 500 million trillion kilometres from Earth!

ATTO ASSESS



First things first,

don't forget to pack your

spacesuit! You'll need it to go on

spacesuit! This is when repairs,

tests and experiments outside the

space craft happen. A spacesuit turns

an astronaut into a SUPER HUMAN

able to cope with ...

Visors are like super-duper
space sunglasses. They
are coated with gold to
protect astronauts' eyes
from the brightness of
the sunt

## OUT-OF-THIS-WORLD COLD!

The coldest known place in the universe is -273°C below freezing (the coldest place on Earth is the Antarctic at around -90°C.) That means that spacesuits need lots of layers for warmth. Fingers lose heat quickly, so spacesuit gloves contain special finger heaters!

### NO OXYGEN!

Humans breathe air to live, which contains oxygen.
There isn't any oxygen in space, so astronauts wear oxygen tanks so they can breathe. Better keep those tanks full!

Spacesuits are **white**because this colour reflects
the heat of the sun best.

mission has a specially designed **badge**.

Each space

#### RAGING HEAT!

It's not just the cold you have to protect yourself from, it also gets very hot in space. Spacesuits contain an inner suit filled with cooling water. This helps astronauts stay super chilled in the 121°C heat of direct sunlight.

That's our outfit sorted! But before we can go **into space**, let's keep our feet on the ground and just ...

GRANNU

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All space travellers need to understand what they can see in the night sky before going up there. So let's

STARGAZE and be AMAZED!

The stars we can see from Earth are all part of our home galaxy – the MILKY WAY. There are many countless trillions of galaxies in the universe.

> Groups of stars in the night sky are called CONSTELLATIONS. Different constellations can be seen depending on where you are standing on Earth.

> > The ANCIENT GREEKS believed that the constellations were placed there by the Gods to remind humans of their great deeds.

LIGHT POLLUTION from street lights, towns and cities can sometimes make it hard to see the night sky clearly.

# LOOK FURTHER!

TELESCOPES have allowed astronomers to see far more than we can with our eyes alone ...

In the 1700s CAROLINE HERSCHEL became the first professional female astronomer. A woman being paid for her scientific talents was a remarkable achievement. At the time women were expected only to get married and have children.

The HUBBLE TELESCOPE launched in 1990. Orbiting above Earth's atmosphere, it can peek into distant galaxies. Nancy Roman, NASA's first female chief astronomer, was known as 'Mother of Hubble'

possible.

for making the telescope a reality. Hubble changed our understanding of the universe!

In 2021 the JAMES WEBB telescope launched. It can see even deeper into space than Hubble. It is observing some of the first stars and galaxies that formed after the Big Bang!

SATELLITES are objects that orbit the Earth. Some send signals, making phones and TVs work.

Puerto Rican astronomer Wanda Diaz-Merced lost her eyesight aged 20, but she refused to give up her dream of studying the stars. Wanda now watches the night sky by listening to it! She uses a technique that turns the starlight gathered by telescopes into sound waves. Her pioneering work has opened astronomy to others with disabilities.

Want to know what other wonders you can see in the night.

Sky? Make a wish on a show. Want what other wonders you can see in the find out!

Sky? Make a wish on a shooting star and we'll find out! But did you know that a shooting star isn't actually a star at all? It is a fragment of space rock whizzing through our atmosphere!

Let us explain! Hey! I'm an

ASTEROID. A large chunk of rock orbiting the sun ...

When asteroids collide with each other, small fragments of rock called METEOROIDS break off. That's me!

Just popping in to say hi! I'm a COMET - a huge ball of dust and ice. As I whizz through space, I leave a bright tail of dust and gas behind me.

Earth's GRAVITY\* pulls me into the atmosphere. Then you get me, a METEOR! The streak of light I make in the sky is a SHOOTING STAR.

> BUMP! I've landed! Pieces of meteor that make it to Earth are called METEORITES. Nice to meet you!

CONTRACTOR S JOB: SPACE GEOLOGIST In the 1960s Ursula Marvin became one of the first female geologists to study rocks brought back from the NASA Apollo moon missions. She also went meteorite hunting in the Antarctic and discovered unusual meteorites, flung to Earth millions of years ago after an

impact on the moon!

\*GRAVITY is a powerful, invisible force tractored the objects to attra powerful. objects to attract towards each other. It formed the stars and planets stars and planets, and is the reason Earth orbits the air.

It also stops us from a It also stops us from Roating off into space!

Studying space rocks can reveal all sorts of secrets about what the universe is made from, how old it is and the forces that shape it.

> I wear my **meteorite** necklace to feel a little closer to space. It is full of stardust and wonder, just like you Luna!

> > WE ARE ALL MADE OF STARDUST

Our bodies are made up of substances called elements. The elements in our bodies were created by the first ever stars around **14 billion** years ago!

\* STAR SEARCH

Right now gravity is keeping our feet on the ground, but you need to be prepared for when there's not enough to stop you floating away!