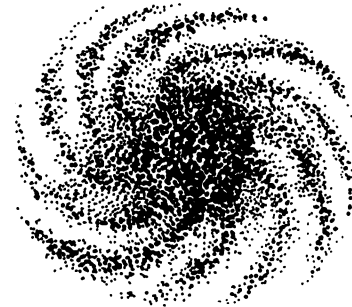


# Galaxy

A galaxy is a gigantic mass of stars and other heavenly bodies. They are bound together by gravity and whirl through space at tremendous speeds. The galaxy we live in is called the Milky Way but there are billions of other galaxies in space.

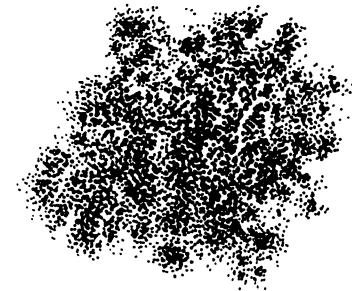
Galaxies have different shapes. Many are spiral shaped. They look like slowly turning giant pinwheels.



Other galaxies are shaped like a football. The scientific name for this shape is “ellipse.” The stars in the centre of an ellipse are packed closely together.




Still other galaxies have irregular shapes with random groupings of stars.



*Read each of the following statements. Circle “T” if they are true and “F” if they are false.*

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| 1. All galaxies have the same shape.                         | T | F |
| 2. Galaxies are bound together by gravity.                   | T | F |
| 3. The galaxy we live in is called the Milky Way.            | T | F |
| 4. “Ellipse” is another word for “pinwheel-shaped.”          | T | F |
| 5. Galaxies stand still in space.                            | T | F |
| 6. The Milky Way is the only galaxy in space.                | T | F |
| 7. The stars in the centre of an ellipse are tightly packed. | T | F |

 *What do you think would be some other good shapes for a galaxy?*

# Introduction

“Our Earth in Space” is one of a series of science books. These books have been designed to enrich children’s lives by sparking interest in reading and learning and by developing basic skills - skills that are important to their success in school.



“Our Earth in Space” provides a general overview of our planet, including its location in the solar system, its natural resources, various weather conditions and land forms. The other eight planets and our Sun are also introduced, as well as other phenomena found in space such as comets, asteroids and stars.

Challenging activities accompany each story, providing practice in such basic school skills as following directions, reading for context, sequencing, unscrambling words, multiplication and subtraction.

Of special interest are the Earth and Space mobiles on pages 36-43 which children will enjoy colouring, cutting, assembling and displaying in the classroom or at home. An answer key is given on pages 45-47.

You may want to read some of the stories to younger children. Review the activities as they are completed and give praise for a job well done! Working along with each child helps make learning fun!

