

Characteristics of A Star

- There are billions of stars in the universe, and it is believed that other unknown planets may orbit some of these stars.

- To find out if life exist on other planets, scientist have studied the characteristic of a star:

- Colour
- Temperature
- Size
- Brightness

Brightness of Stars

Scientists use the word magnitude to describe a star's brightness.

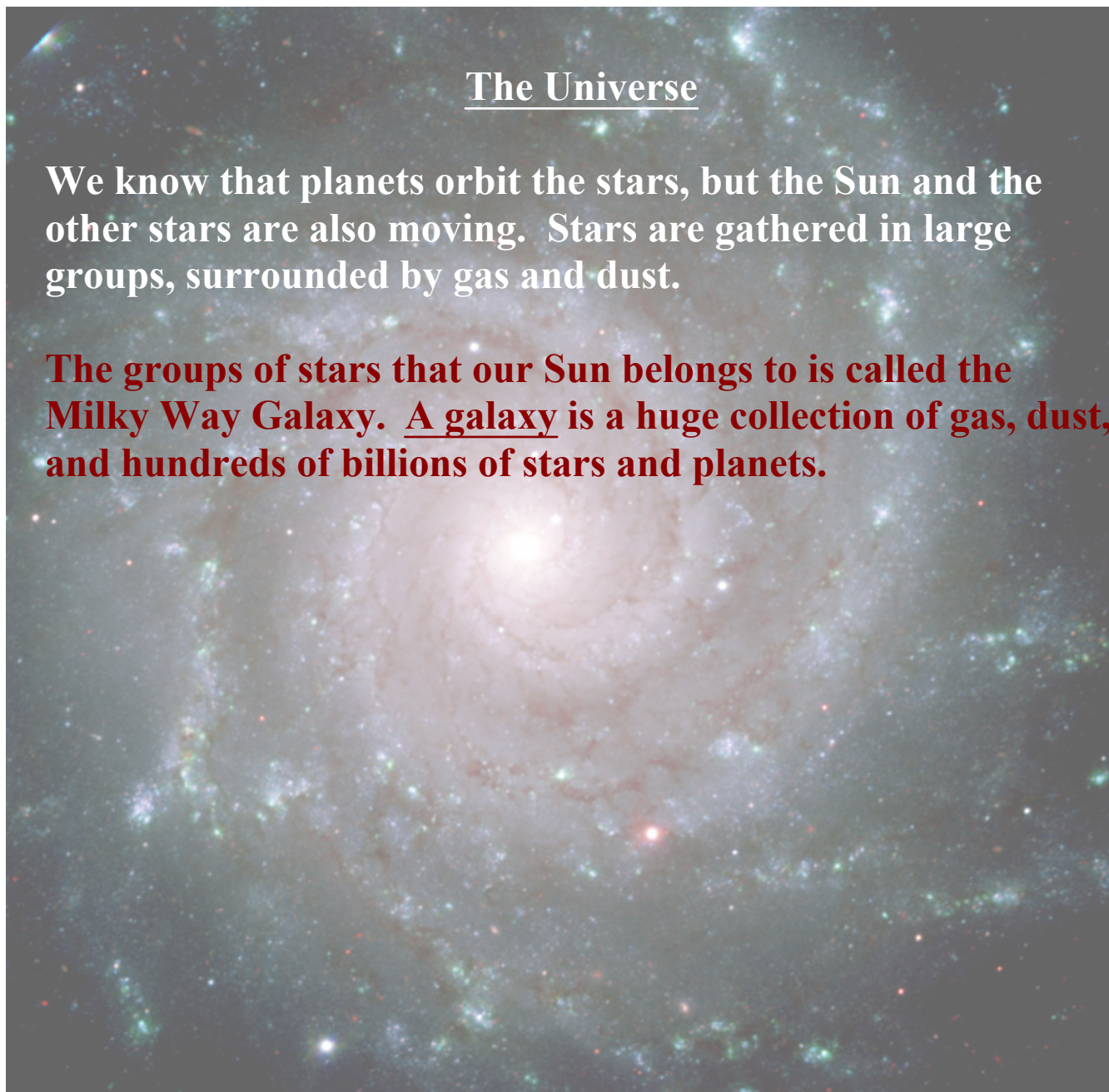
Apparent magnitude: Refers to the brightness of a star as it appears to us.

Absolute magnitude: Refers to the actual amount of light given off by a star.

The Universe

We know that planets orbit the stars, but the Sun and the other stars are also moving. Stars are gathered in large groups, surrounded by gas and dust.

The groups of stars that our Sun belongs to is called the Milky Way Galaxy. A galaxy is a huge collection of gas, dust, and hundreds of billions of stars and planets.



Milky Way Galaxy

Top View

Orion arm
Carina arm
Sagittarius arm
Centaurus arm
Central Hub
Perseus arm
Cygnus arm

You are here

Side View

©EnchantedLearning.com

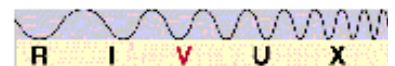
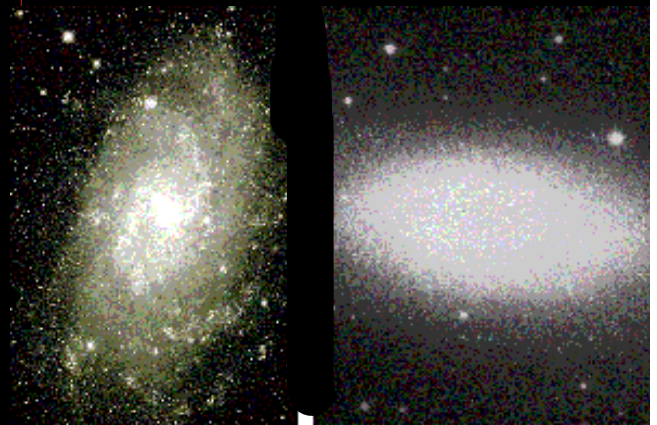
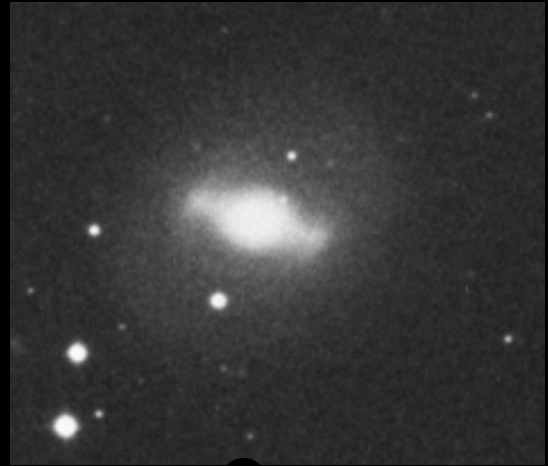
NASA

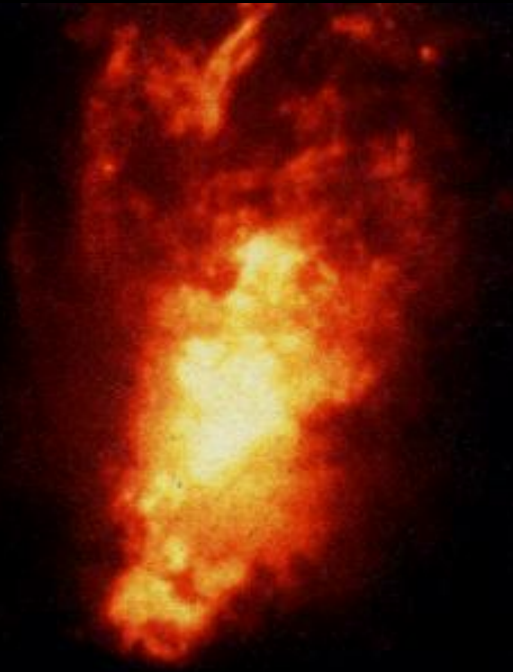
The Milky Way is disk-shaped with our solar system located near the outer part of the disk. The thicker inner layer is called the central bulge. The entire Milky way Galaxy rotates around the bulge.

Shapes of Galaxies:

Spiral
Elliptical
Irregular

Elliptical





Irregular

Read Pages 458- 460

Answer questions: 1,2,5,6

Then Stop