

Spying the universe

Terms in this set (60)

existence	the fact or state of living or having objective reality
lightyear	the distance light travels in a year

solar system	sun, planets, and all the other objects that revolve around the sun
attribute	characteristic
divine	related to a god; supremely good or beautiful
pave the way	create the conditions or circumstances for something to happen.
ancestors	people from whom other people descend
seemingly	apparently
exclude	to leave out; to keep from being a part of.
fundamental	basic and important

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lunar eclipse	the blocking of sunlight to the moon that occurs when Earth is directly between the sun and the moon
cast a shadow	the shadow that exists underneath an object.

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visible	able to be seen or perceived
circumference	the perimeter of a circle
solstice	time when the Sun is farthest from the equator.
stadion (stadia)	an ancient Greek unit of length
measurement	the size, length, or amount of something, as established by measuring
convert	to change from one form to another
reflect	to bend or throw back light or heat
documentation	official papers, or written material that provides proof of something
influential	having or exercising influence or power

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revolve	to move around another object
consistent	steady; regular
assert	to state or express firmly
sidereal year	The time required for Earth to complete exactly one orbit around the Sun, relative to the stars.
a multitude of	a large number of
stride	to walk with long steps, a long step
driving force	someone or something that has the power to make things happen
paradigm	a model; an example
naked eye	look at something using only your eye with no help (no glasses, binoculars, or magnifying glasses)
credibility	the quality of being believable or trustworthy
illuminate	to light up or make clear
clutch	to grasp and hold tightly

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heresy	a belief that is against the principles of a particular religion
recant	to withdraw a statement or belief to which one has previously been committed, renounce, retract
velocity	the speed of an object in a particular direction
proportional	having the proper size in relation to other objects or items
gravitation	the force that pulls all objects in the universe toward one another
disprove	to prove to be false
celestial	having to do with the sky or heavens

asteroid belt	the region of the solar system between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter, where many asteroids are found
irregularity	the quality of not being regular in shape or form
dispute	a disagreement, argument, or debate
refracting telescope	a telescope that uses a set of lenses to gather and focus light from distant objects
reflecting telescope	a telescope that uses a curved mirror to gather and focus light from distant objects

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magnification	the increase of an object's apparent size by using lenses or mirrors
focal length	the distance from the center of a lens to the focal point
eyepiece	the lens at the top that you look through
light pollution	human-made light that hinders astronomical observations
nebula	a large cloud of dust and gas in space

orientation	awareness of the objective world in relation to the self
geostatic	earth not moving
orbital	relating to the orbit (= curved path) of an object in space
lenses	transparent pieces of glass or plastic used for refracting light
curved	not straight
flaw	a slight fault, defect, crack
blurry	unfocused, unclear, indistinct
smooth	having a surface that is perfectly regular and has no holes, lumps, or areas that rise or fall suddenly