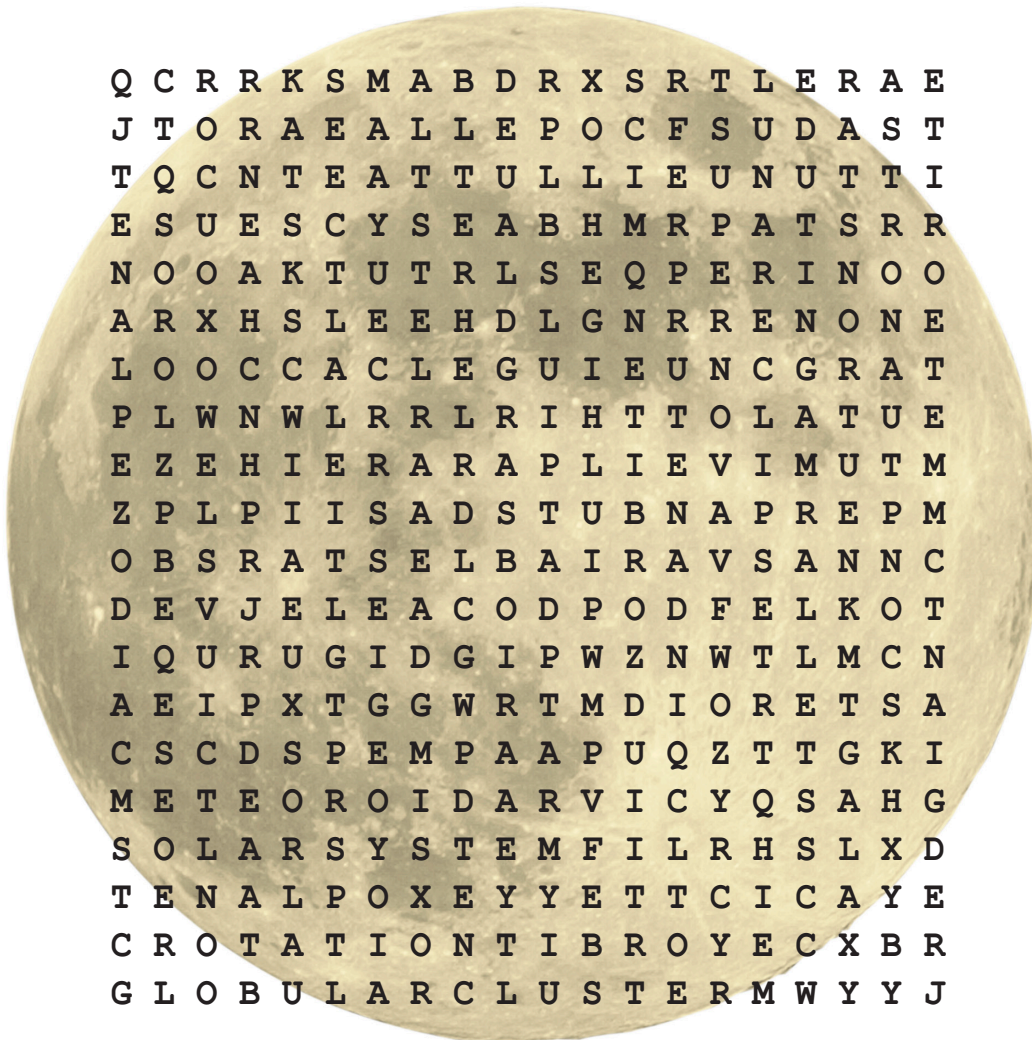


# SPACE KEY WORD SEARCH

NAME \_\_\_\_\_



Q C R R K S M A B D R X S R T L E R A E  
J T O R A E A L L E P O C F S U D A S T  
T Q C N T E A T T U L L I E U N U T T I  
E S U E S C Y S E A B H M R P A T S R R  
N O O A K T U T R L S E Q P E R I N O O  
A R X H S L E E H D L G N R R E N O N E  
L O O C C A C L E G U I E U N C G R A T  
P L W N W L R R L R I H T T O L A T U E  
E Z E H I E R A R A P L I E V I M U T M  
Z P L P I I S A D S T U B N A P R E P M  
O B S R A T S E L B A I R A V S A N N C  
D E V J E L E A C O D P O D F E L K O T  
I Q U R U G I D G I P W Z N W T L M C N  
A E I P X T G G W R T M D I O R E T S A  
C S C D S P E M P A A P U Q Z T T G K I  
M E T E O R O I D A R V I C Y Q S A H G  
S O L A R S Y S T E M F I L R H S L X D  
T E N A L P O X E Y Y E T T C I C A Y E  
C R O T A T I O N T I B R O Y E C X B R  
G L O B U L A R C L U S T E R M W Y Y J



asterism  
asteroid  
astronaut  
black hole  
celestial sphere  
circumpolar  
comet  
constellation  
ecliptic  
exoplanet  
galaxy  
globular cluster

gravity  
light year  
lunar eclipse  
meteor  
meteorite  
meteoroid  
nebula  
neutron star  
open cluster  
orbit  
planet  
pulsar

quasar  
red giant  
red shift  
rotation  
satellite  
solar eclipse  
solar system  
stellar magnitude  
supernova  
variable star  
white dwarf  
zodiac

*\*see next page for word search definitions*

# SPACE KEY WORD DEFINITIONS

## VISIT THESE SITES FOR MORE ASTRONOMY VOCABULARY BUILDERS

[www.sciencekids.co.nz/sciencefacts/space/definitions.html](http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/sciencefacts/space/definitions.html) or [www.seasky.org/astromony/astromony-glossary.html#Q](http://www.seasky.org/astromony/astromony-glossary.html#Q)

**ASTERISM** - easily recognized pattern of stars, from one or more constellations.

**ASTEROID** - small, rocky object in the Solar System, not a satellite of a planet; most asteroids are located in the Asteroid Belt between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter.

**ASTRONAUT** - space traveller.

**BLACK HOLE** - enormously dense object with gravity so great that nothing can escape, including light; formed from the collapse of a super-massive star.

**CELESTIAL SPHERE** - system of mapping the space around the Earth; an imaginary sphere surrounding Earth.

**CIRCUMPOLAR** - circling the pole star (Polaris).

**COMET** - chunk of dirty, dark ice mixed with dust, rocks, and gases which revolves around the Sun in an elliptical orbit; emits volatiles (gases) in a long "tail" as it nears the Sun and heats up.

**CONSTELLATION** - defined area of the sky containing a star pattern, agreed upon by the scientific community.

**ECLIPTIC** - the Sun's apparent annual path across the celestial sphere as observed from Earth; same path is also approximately followed by the moon and planets.

**EXOPLANET** - planet orbiting a star other than the Sun; hundreds have been discovered in the last decade.

**GALAXY** - huge group of stars, gas, and dust that may contain millions to hundreds of billions of stars held together by gravity.

**GLOBULAR CLUSTER** - immense sphere-shaped, relatively compact, gravity-linked group of hundreds of thousands or even millions of stars; looks like a fuzzy patch in the night sky.

**GRAVITY** - the force of attraction that pulls a smaller object toward a more massive object.

**LIGHTYEAR** - the distance light travels in a year, 9.6 trillion km.

**LUNAR ECLIPSE** - the Moon moves into Earth's shadow as Earth passes between Sun and Moon.

**METEOR** - bright streak of light seen as a meteoroid burns up entering the Earth's atmosphere (moving up to 500 km/sec!).

**METEORITE** - meteoroids that do not burn up completely and land on Earth.

**METEOROID** - small rocky and/or metallic fragment orbiting the Sun - varying in size from a grain of sand to less than a kilometer across.

**NEBULA** - vast cloud of gas and dust in space where new stars may form.

**NEUTRON STAR** - small, dense star resulting from the collapse of a super-giant star.

**OPEN CLUSTER** - irregular-shaped star group consisting of a few dozen to several thousand relatively young stars bound by gravity.

**ORBIT** - the path of one object as it revolves around another.

**PLANET** - large spherical object that revolves around a star and dominates its orbital path.

**PULSAR** - rotating neutron star that gives off short, sharp pulses of radio waves.

**QUASAR** - most luminous object in the universe powered by supermassive black holes; radiation is emitted into space as material falls into a black hole, usually at the center of a galaxy - this is referred to as an AGN - Active Galactic Nucleus; extremely far away.

**RED GIANT** - type of star that has a relatively low temperature and is many times larger than the Sun; forms as a star uses up fuel.

**RED SHIFT** - the measurable change in the wavelength of light as an object in space moves away from our point of view.

**ROTATION** - the spinning of an object on its axis.

**SATELLITE** - an object orbiting around another object held by gravity.

**SOLAR ECLIPSE** - total or partial blocking of the Sun by the Moon; the Moon passes between Sun and Earth.

**SOLAR SYSTEM** - the Sun and everything that orbits it.

**STELLAR MAGNITUDE** - the brightness of a star or other heavenly body.

**SUPERNOVA** - explosive death of a massive star (at least 8 times the mass of the Sun); expels elements into space.

**VARIABLE STAR** - a type of star whose brightness changes over time, usually in a predictable way.

**WHITE DWARF** - small hot star no longer producing nuclear fusion.

**ZODIAC** - the thirteen constellations along the ecliptic through which the Sun and planets appear to travel during the course of a year.