☆ WHERE ARE WE

IN SPACE?



E ARLY THEORIES ABOUT THE EARTH and the Universe placed the Earth in the center, with all of the planets and stars orbiting around us. This theory was proven wrong hundreds of years ago, but scientists are still trying to figure out where the Earth actually is in the Universe.

What we do know is that our solar system is made up of one star, the Sun, which several planets revolve around. Our solar system is one of over 200 billion other stars and solar systems, which make up a galaxy. All of the stars and solar systems in our galaxy, called the Milky Way, revolve around one center point. The closest galaxy to ours is 27,000 light-years away, which means it takes light 27,000 years to reach us from there. There is no way, right now, of telling how many galaxies there are in the universe, but scientists say there are at least 100 billion. The universe is too large to measure and it is constantly expanding, all of the galaxies are moving outward and away from each other.

& Questions

1. What is the name of the galaxy we live in?

2. How long would it take a ship going the speed of the light to reach a planet 10,000 light years away?

3. What are some of things that you think make exploring space and understanding the Universe so difficult?

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