

Subject	Physics
Unit/Topic	Year 10 Space

Key Vocabulary	Definition
Big Bang Theory	The suggestion that the universe expanded from a very small region that was extremely hot and dense.
Dwarf planet	A body in orbit around the Sun, that is approximately spherical, is not a satellite of another planet but does not meet other criteria to make it a planet.
Fusion	The joining together of two lighter nuclei to form a larger nucleus.
Main sequence star	A star during the stable period of its lifetime where the force of gravity pulling the star in are balanced by the outwards force created from the pressure of the fusion reactions are balanced.
Milky Way	The name of our galaxy.
Nebula	A cloud of gas and dust where new stars are formed.
Red - shift	The observed increase in the wavelength of light received from distance galaxies. The further away the galaxy, the faster they are moving away so the bigger the red – shift
Satellite	An object that orbits a star or planet. Can be natural (e.g. the Moon) or man-made (e.g. communication satellites).
Sun	The only star in our solar system
Supernova	The explosion of a massive star. This distributes the elements throughout the universe.