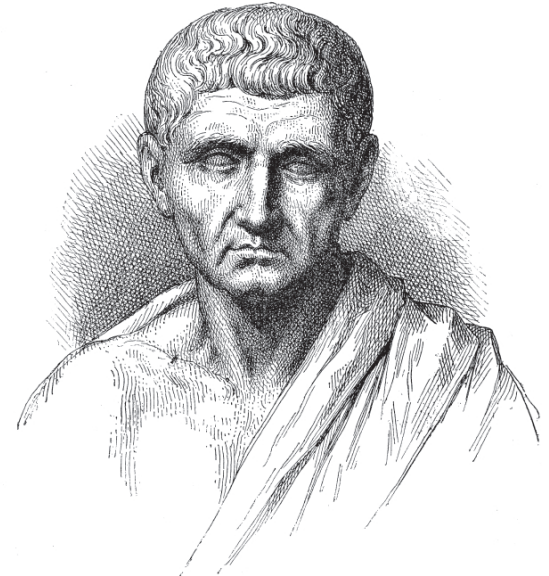


Famous Astronomers Research Task

People have looked up at the stars for thousands of years and wondered about our place in the universe.

In ancient times people questioned what our solar system looked like and how it works.

Ancient Greek, Chinese and Persian scholars observed the stars and planets. They devised ways to measure the movement of celestial bodies.



Aristotle



Ptolemy



Nicolaus Copernicus

Scientists throughout the ages have sought answers to their questions.

Each building upon the work of those who came before them.

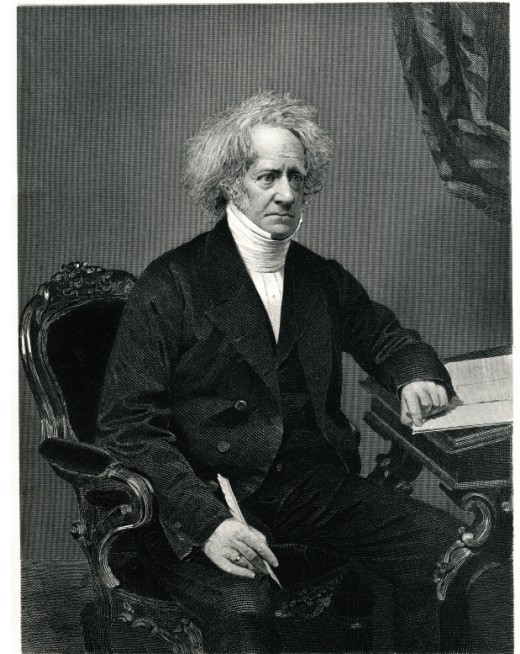
Sometimes they made magnificent discoveries and changed the way people viewed the world.



Johannes Kepler



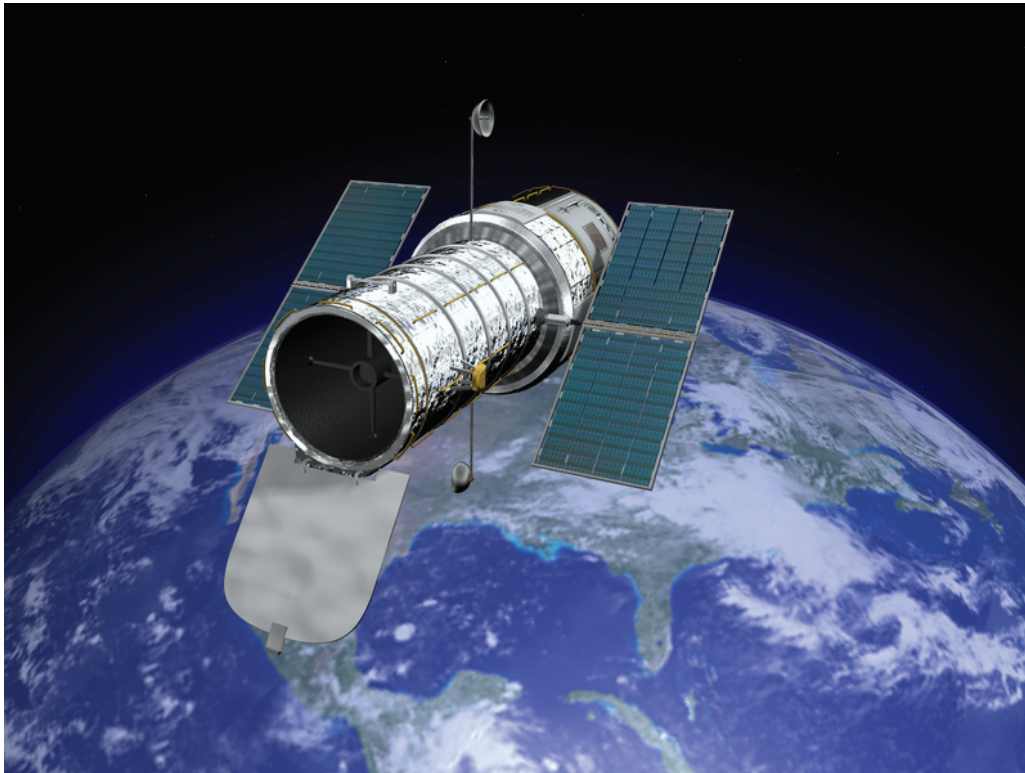
Sir Isaac Newton



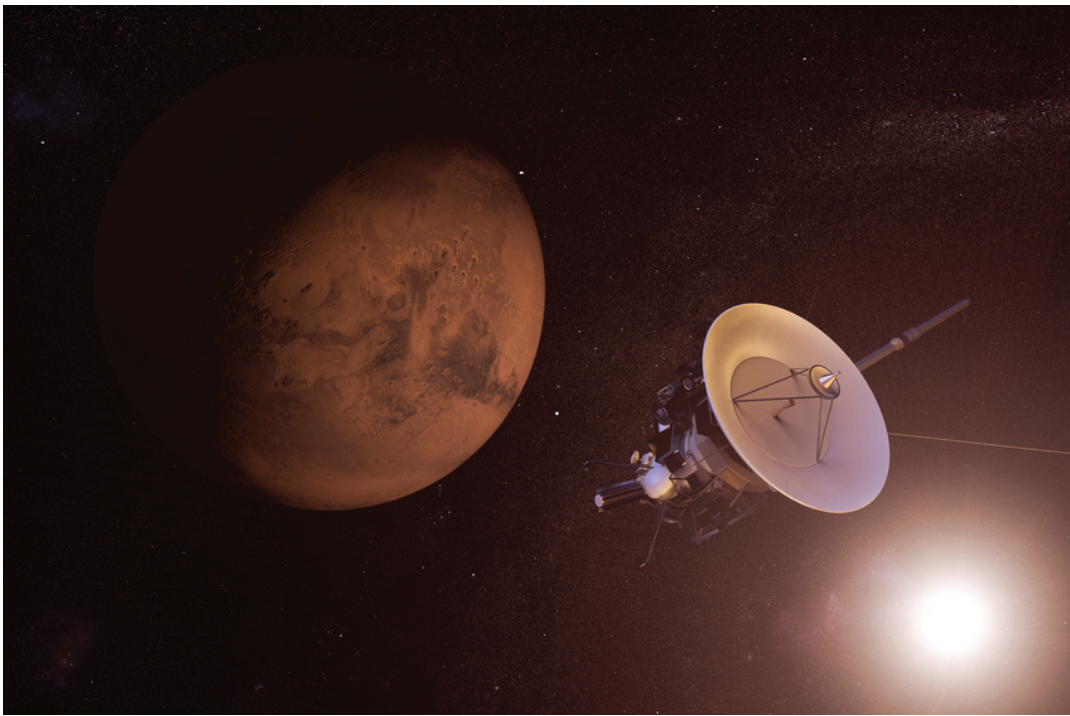
William Herschel



Today, we are reminded of some astronomer's work by the things that are named after them. Our most well known comet was named after the person who discovered it, Edmond Halley.



Did you know that the Hubble Space Telescope, which was launched into space in 1990, was named after Edwin Hubble?



And scientists paid tribute to Giovanni Cassini and Christiaan Huygens when they launched their Cassini-Huygens spacecraft in 1997.



Giovanni Cassini



Huyghens

Christiaan Huygens

There are even craters on the Moon named after astronomers. Did you know that there are three craters named after female astronomers?

Research Task:

Find out what astronomers discovered throughout the ages:

- * Work individually or in pairs.
- * Choose a famous astronomer from the selection of Studyladder Research Sheets.
- * Use a variety of sources of information. Find out about the astronomer's contributions and discover the legacy they left for the scientists who followed them.

The image shows three overlapping research sheets for famous astronomers. Each sheet has a header with the astronomer's name, followed by fields for Name, Date, Date and Place of Birth, Date and Place of Death, Name of Parents, Nationality, Achievements, and Legacy to Astronomy. The sheets are for Albert Einstein, Claudius Ptolemy, and William Herschel. The William Herschel sheet is the most prominent and includes a small sketch of him.

Albert Einstein

Name: _____ Date: _____

Date and Place of Birth: _____

Date and Place of Death: _____

Name of Parents: _____

Nationality: _____

Achievements: _____

Legacy to Astronomy: _____

Claudius Ptolemy

Name: _____ Date: _____

Date and Place of Birth: _____

Date and Place of Death: _____

Name of Parents: _____

Nationality: _____

Achievements: _____

Legacy to Astronomy: _____

William Herschel

Name: _____ Date: _____

Date and Place of Birth: _____

Date and Place of Death: _____

Name of Parents: _____

Nationality: _____

Achievements: _____

Legacy to Astronomy: _____

Sketched portrait of William Herschel

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