

BC year
of Science

2010-2011

ESO/Y. Beletsky



November | Glossary

black hole: a region in space that results from a collapsed star. Black holes have tremendous gravity that can even trap light making them invisible and potentially dangerous to space travel.

dwarf planet: A dwarf planet is a small planet like sphere that is too small to be considered a regular planet but may have some of the same characteristics. Pluto is a dwarf planet in our solar system.

galaxy: A spiraling "star city" that contains billions of stars, solar systems, and other celestial bodies including black holes.

Milky Way: The Milky Way is the galaxy that contains our solar system and planet Earth.

solar system: A solar system generally consists of a central star with planets and other celestial objects, like asteroids and dwarf planets, orbiting around it. Our solar system has eight planets, an asteroid belt, and numerous dwarf planets and other celestial objects orbiting around the sun.

star: Stars are large light-emitting spheres of gas that are often located in the centers of solar systems. Our sun is a medium sized star.

universe: the universe or space includes very known and unknown star, galaxy, black hole, or other celestial body or empty space in existence.

