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Activities

Eyes in the Sky

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Hubble Space Telescope was launched in 1990. Over two decades, it's looked deep into space and beamed back mind-boggling images. NASA has launched other deep space telescopes in recent years. In this Planet Diary activity, you'll learn more about eyes-in-the-sky that have stretched our understanding of space and time.

Directions

- Visit the Hubble Space Telescope. Click Hubble Essentials. Read the introduction, then *Changing Astronomy* below it. Answer Workspace question 1.
- Scroll to *Why a Space Telescope?* Answer question 2.
- Keep scrolling to *How It Works*. Click to enlarge the diagram of the telescope on the right. Answer question 3.
- Go to Hubble's Discoveries. Research one discovery that interests you. Summarize its highlights for question 4.
- Visit the Hubble Galleries and choose one picture that interests you. Describe it for question 5.
- Explore these other deep space telescopes:
  - Chandra X-ray Observatory
  - Spitzer Space Telescope
  - Compton Gamma Ray Observatory
- For the last question, write about one topic that interested you as you read about either Chandra, Spitzer, or Compton.

Workspace

1. Describe how the Hubble Space Telescope helped change astronomy.

2. What problems limit Earth-based telescopes?

3. Explain how Hubble's system of mirrors works.

4. My topic: _____
   Summary:

5. My picture: _____
   Description:

6. My topic: _____
   Summary:

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