

QUESTIONS FOR THE EXPANDING UNIVERSE

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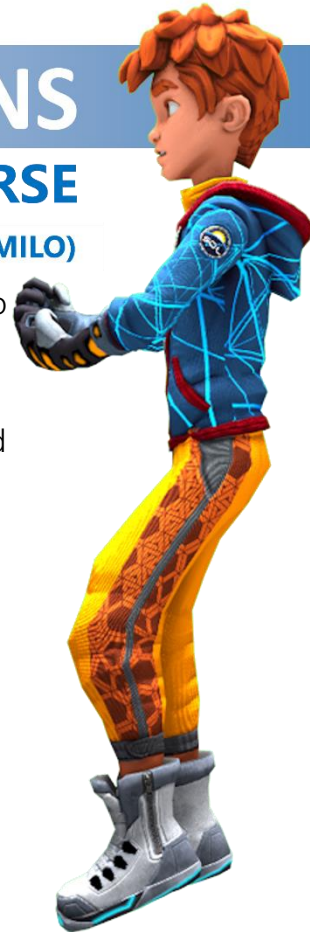
MILO'S QUESTIONS

THE EXPANDING UNIVERSE

(AS ASKED BY MILO)

In 1900, astronomers had no way to measure the distance to stars. They believed that the universe was just our Milky Way Galaxy, and that the state of the universe was static (that is, all of the stars were fixed in place). All of that started to change when Henrietta Leavitt developed a method to measure the distance to stars in 1912.

1. When did Edwin Hubble use Henrietta's method to measure the distance to stars?
2. What besides the distance to stars did Hubble measure?
3. What did Hubble discover?
4. What did Hubble's measurements suggest about the state of the universe?
5. According to Hubble's measurements, how were the stars moving with respect to each other?
6. What did Hubble's measurements suggest about the number of galaxies in the universe?



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7. When did Albert Einstein publish his General Theory of Relativity which was a new theory that described how gravity worked?
8. What did Albert Einstein believe about the state of the Universe?
9. Why did Einstein use a fudge factor in his General Theory of Relativity to predict the state of the universe?
10. What is a fudge factor?
11. What did Albert Einstein name his fudge factor?
12. What was Georges Lemaître's prediction about the state of the universe based on Einstein's General Relativity Theory?
13. Why was Lemaître's prediction different from Einstein's prediction?
14. What was Georges Lemaître's bold prediction of how the universe started?

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15. What did Georges Lemaître call the object from which the universe was created?

16. What is the creation of the universe called now?

17. What did Albert Einstein's say was the biggest blunder of his life?

During the last 20 years, it has been observed that not only is the universe expanding, but the expansion is getting faster and faster. Because of this observation, Einstein's fudge factor has been returned to the General Theory of Relativity. The cause of the expansion has been named Dark Energy.

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