

## *Explore Galaxies!*

### Websites

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/subjects/astronomy/> (select galaxy or Milky Way)

*Zoom Astronomy* offers a half- to one-page explanation with accompanying images of each type of galaxy, along with information about our local group and galaxy clusters. A galaxy activity is also provided for younger learners, ages 5-10, and all materials are presented in a user-friendly, easy-to-understand format.

[http://starchild.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/StarChild/universe\\_level1/galaxies.html](http://starchild.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/StarChild/universe_level1/galaxies.html)

Star Child shares information about galaxies for elementary children.

[http://amazing-space.stsci.edu/resources/explorations/galaxies\\_galore/teacher/grabbag.html#activities](http://amazing-space.stsci.edu/resources/explorations/galaxies_galore/teacher/grabbag.html#activities)

The resources at this site include Hubble images, numerous galaxy activities, scientific background, lesson plans, national standards, classroom activities, interactive galaxy games for kids, and lists of other resources such as books, videos, and Web sites. There's something here for all ages!

[http://hubblesite.org/gallery/album/galaxy\\_collection/](http://hubblesite.org/gallery/album/galaxy_collection/)

Viewers of all ages will enjoy these fascinating images of galaxies from the Hubble telescope site.

[http://www.windows.ucar.edu/tour/link=/the\\_universe/Galaxy.html](http://www.windows.ucar.edu/tour/link=/the_universe/Galaxy.html)

Windows to the Universe offers easily read information about galaxies for upper elementary to high school students. A lovely introduction.

<http://curious.astro.cornell.edu/galaxies.php>

Curious about Astronomy provides a brief primer on galaxies – their shapes and classification.

<http://seds.org/messier/galaxy.html> - Galaxies

<http://seds.org/Messier/more/mw.html> - Milky Way

For the seriously devoted ... more detailed information about galaxies from the Students for the Exploration and Development of Space.

<http://www.galaxyzoo.org/> - Galaxy Zoo

Calling all citizen scientists! Want to help scientists classify galaxies? Check out this site to get involved in online classification and analysis of galaxies using real data. The results are used in scientific research.

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### Books

Galaxies. Paul P. Sipiera, Children's Press, 1997, ISBN 0516203339.

Sipiera presents different types of galaxies and their structures, along with a short history about the Milky Way. Large print with numerous images, illustrations, and fun facts for ages 8–11.

The Milky Way (Galaxy). Gregory Vogt, Bridgestone Books, 2002, ISBN 0736813845.

Ages 8–12 will receive a good introduction to our galaxy and its components, images, a glossary of terms, and a short activity.

The Story of the Milky Way: A Cherokee Tale. Joseph Bruchac and Gayle Ross, Dial Books for Young Readers, 1995, ASIN 0803717377.

Native American tale told by a father to his children. This well-illustrated book is wonderful for reading aloud to ages 4–8.

Elinda Who Danced in the Sky: An Estonian Folktale. Lynn Moroney, Children's Book Press, 1990, ISBN 0892390662.

Lynn Moroney shares the story about Princess Elinda, who weaves an ethereal wedding veil that becomes the Milky Way. The colorful illustrations and simple text make for a great read-aloud for ages 5–12.