

EarthComm Earth System Evolution: Astronomy and Your Community Activity 6

This investigation will help you to:

- The Nature of Electromagnetic Radiation
- Astronomy and the Electromagnetic Spectrum
- Using Electromagnetic Radiation to Understand Celestial Objects
- To learn more about space science missions, visit the following web sites:
- To learn more about using radio waves to study distant objects, visit the following web site:
- To learn more about detection of electromagnetic radiation, visit the following web sites:
- To learn more about technologies that use electromagnetic radiation, visit the following web sites:

The Nature of Electromagnetic Radiation

- The Electromagnetic Spectrum, NASA
This home page provides links to two different topic levels, the second slightly more advanced than the first. The topics for Level One include: Measuring the Electromagnetic Spectrum, A Radio Wave Is Not a Gamma-ray, a Microwave Is Not an X-ray... or Is It?, Why Do We Have to Go to Space to See All of the Electromagnetic Spectrum?. The topics for Level Two include: More about the Electromagnetic Spectrum, and Space Observatories in Different Regions of the EM Spectrum.
- All About Spectra, University of Illinois
Try another brief overview on electromagnetic spectrum and electromagnetic wave radiation.

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Astronomy and the Electromagnetic Spectrum

- An Introduction to Radio Astronomy, National Radio Astronomy Observatory
The NRAO web site offers an education section with various resources including background information and a photo gallery. The Introduction to Radio Astronomy is particular page that offers answers to frequently asked questions about radio astronomy, an article about the VLA and VLBA in New Mexico, and more.
- The Electromagnetic Spectrum
Offers a good description of important properties of the major regions of the spectrum.

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Using Electromagnetic Radiation to Understand Celestial Objects

- Amazing Space, Space Telescope Science Institute
Explore space with the Hubble Telescope. Learn about what different colors say about stars by clicking on Star Light, Star Bright.

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To learn more about space science missions, visit the following web sites:

- [Space Science Missions, NASA](#)
This is a comprehensive list of missions either under study, in development, operating, or past missions.
- [Historical Archive, NASA](#)
This page includes a list of the manned missions from the earliest programs to the most recent.

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To learn more about using radio waves to study distant objects, visit the following web site:

- [Radar, Studyworld](#)
Find out how scientists study distant objects using the VLA and radio waves.

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To learn more about detection of electromagnetic radiation, visit the following web sites:

- [NRAO Press Releases, National Radio Astronomy Observatory](#)
Search through a list of different press releases about scientific discoveries and advancements made with a VLA.
- [The Very Large Array and the Very Long Baseline Array, National Radio Astronomy Observatory](#)
Read about the radio telescope arrays that allow scientists to look deep into space

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To learn more about technologies that use electromagnetic radiation, visit the following web sites:

- [Invention of the Microwave](#)
Learn more about the history and technology of the microwave oven.
- [How does an x-ray machine work? Howstuffworks](#)
Get the answer.
- [Does the product emit radiation? Device Advice](#)
Get some helpful definitions and insights into the pervasive nature of radiation-based technology.

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