

Space Place Pumpkins

Paint pumpkins with space and Earth science designs

Celebrate the fall season and Halloween by making your very own NASA Space Place pumpkins with these easy-to-use stencils!



What you need:

- Pumpkin
- Black Marker
- Black Paint
- Small Paintbrush
- Your choice of NASA Space Place Stencil (see final pages)



What to do:

1. Print out the template page.
2. Place the paper on the pumpkin and secure it with tape. You don't want it to move around while you trace the design. Since you're putting a flat piece of paper on a rounded surface, there will be some bunching, but don't worry about that too much.
3. With a black permanent marker, very slowly trace the outline of the shape. The marker will bleed through the paper and leave marks on the pumpkin for you to use as a guide. To be sure that it bleeds through enough, you can go back and forth over the same area a few times, or stop every





few millimeters as you trace and let the marker bleed through some more.

4. Remove the paper. Look at your wonderful guide!
5. Use your black marker to trace the outline of the shape.
6. Fill in the design with the black marker or black paint. It's best to fill in the edges and small spaces with the marker, but the marker does not work well covering large areas. For those, paint is much easier.
7. Display your wonderful NASA Space Place pumpkin for all to see! Don't forget to tell everyone what the shape is and what you know about it.



NASA Space Place Pumpkin

Full directions: spaceplace.nasa.gov/pumpkins



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A galaxy is a huge collection of gas, dust, and billions of stars and their solar systems. A galaxy is held together by gravity. Our galaxy, the Milky Way, also has a supermassive black hole in the middle.

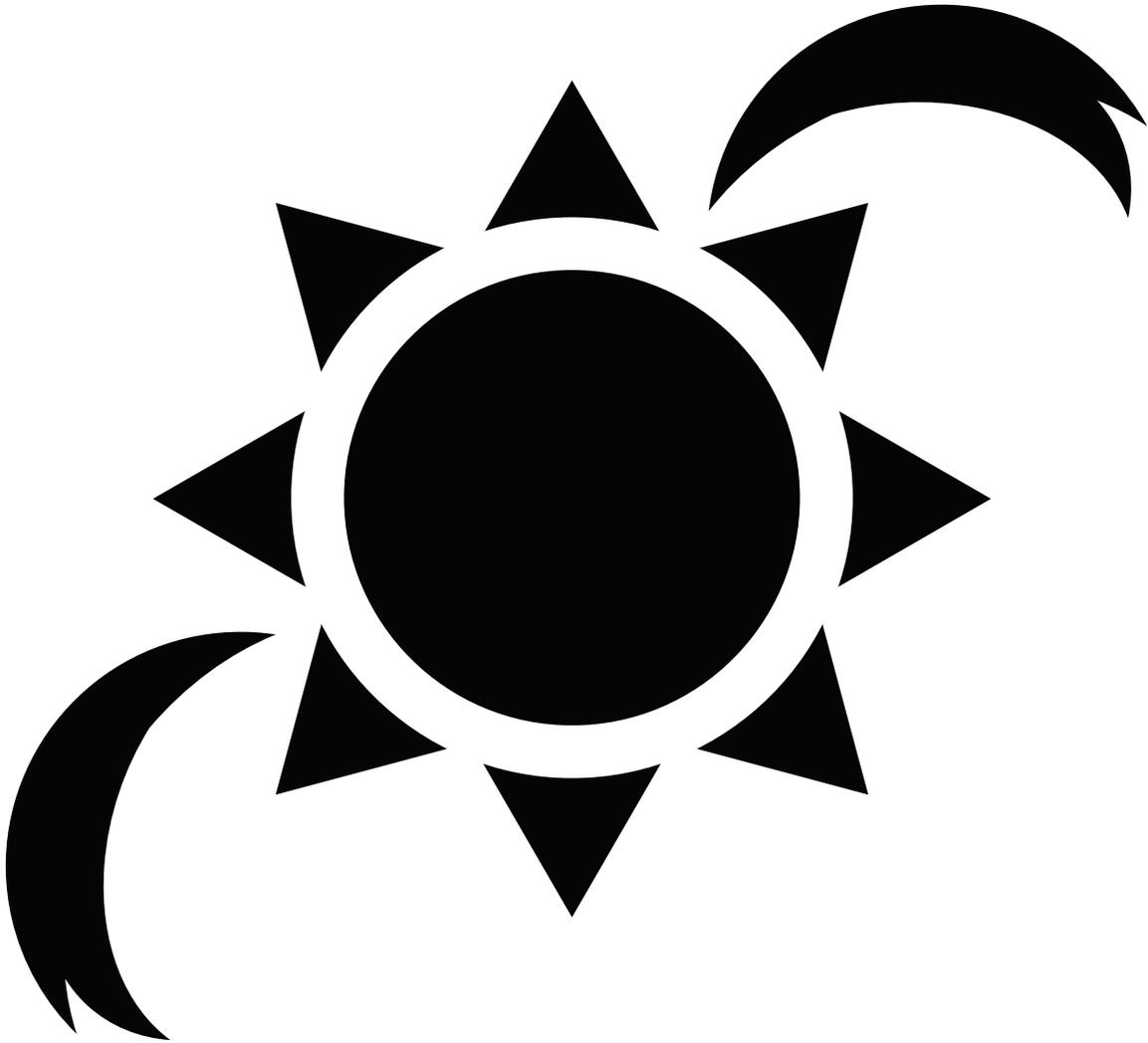
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Sometimes, the sun throws off huge amounts of matter. These events are called **coronal mass ejections**, or **CMEs**. A CME can release up to 20 billion tons of this material! If that material were rock, it would make a mountain roughly 2-3/4 miles across and almost 1/2 mile high!

spaceplace.nasa.gov/pumpkins

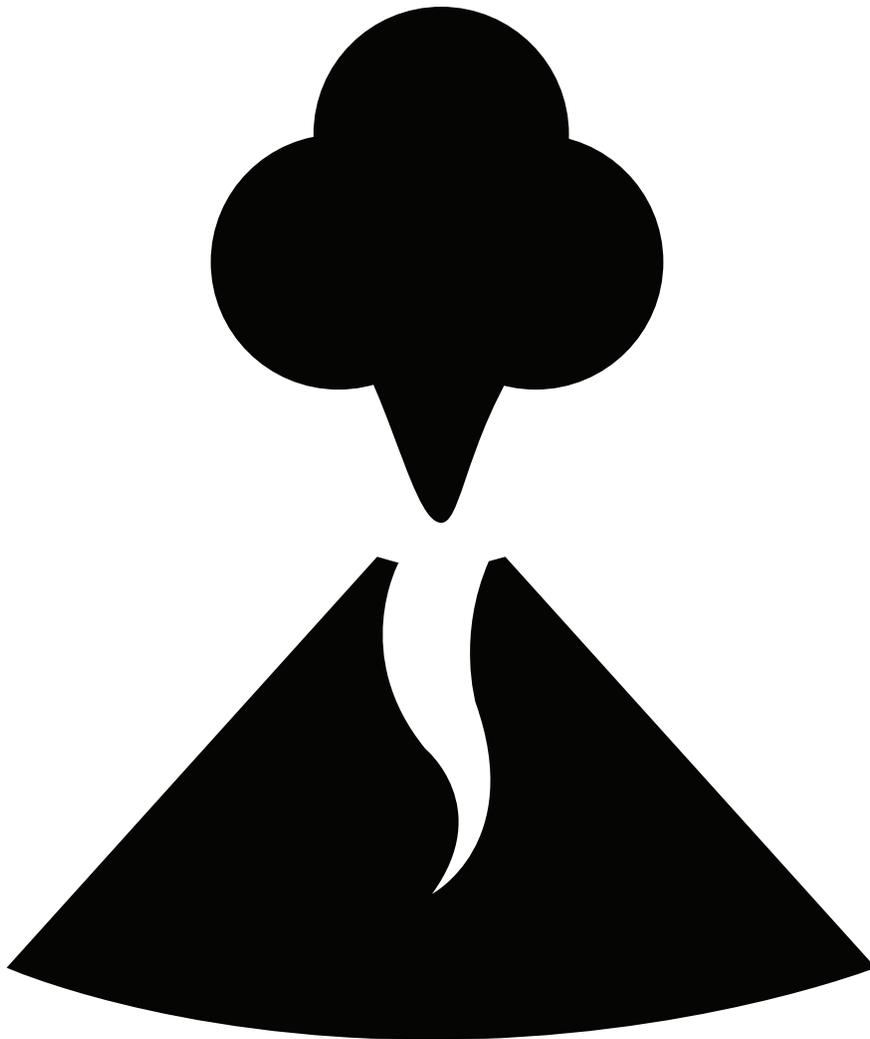
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Earth isn't the only planet with volcanoes. There are volcanoes all around our solar system. Some of the moons of Jupiter, Saturn, and Neptune have active ones today.

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When Galileo Galilei first saw Saturn through a telescope in the 1600s, he wasn't sure what he was seeing. At first he thought he was looking at three planets, or a planet with handles. Now we know those "handles" turned out to be the rings of Saturn.

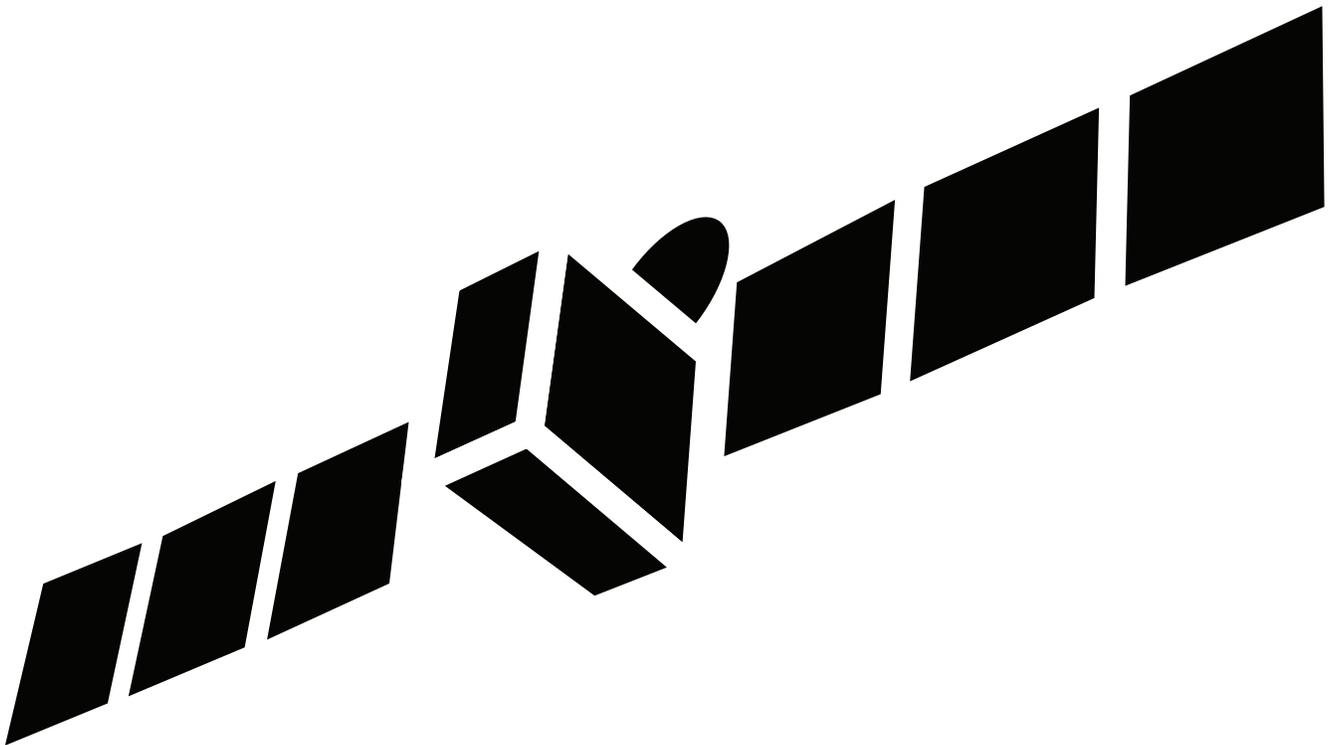
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Have you ever wondered how your phone knows exactly where you are on Earth? It uses signals from satellites high up in space. There are over 30 satellites used for this Global Positioning System. They orbit over 16,000 miles (26,000km) above the Earth!