

Outer Space in Art

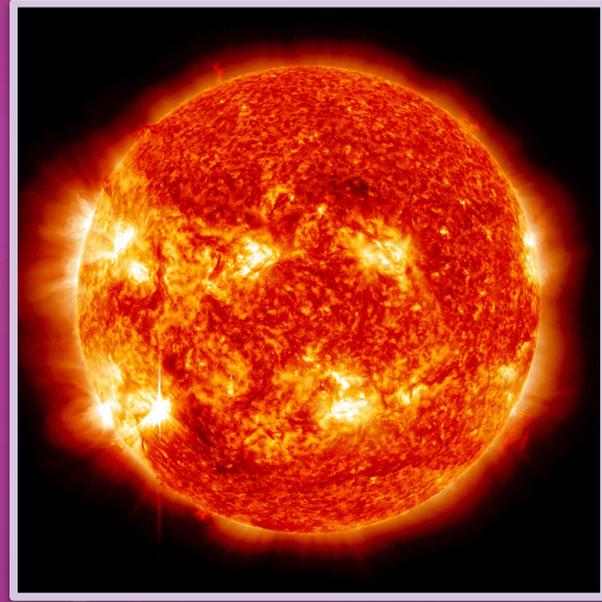
How are artists influenced by the sun, stars, moon, and planets?



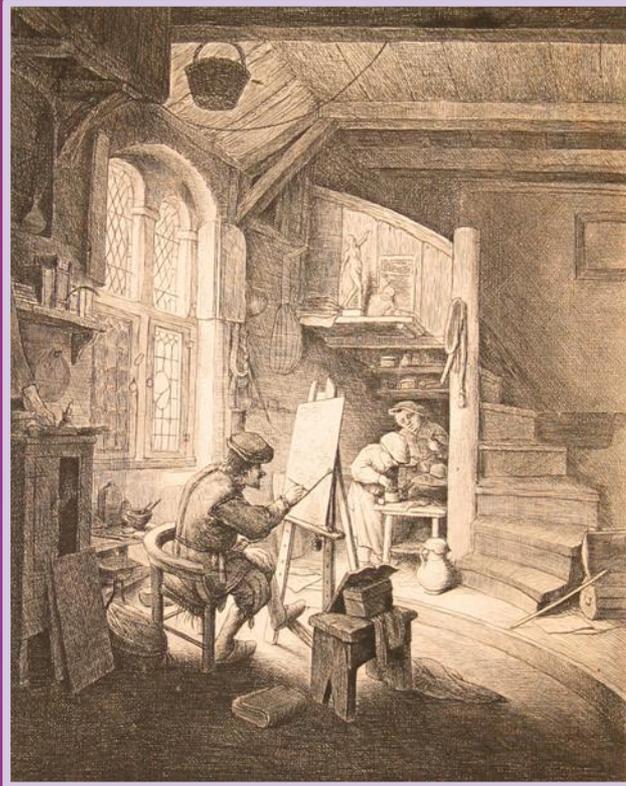
What is the sun?

The sun is...

- the largest known star
- found at the center of the solar system
- the closest star to Earth



Have you ever seen the shadows made by the sun? Or maybe the sunlight shining through a glass window?



Can you see...

- shadows and light in this image?
- light coming from inside the room, or from outside?
- artist in the image sitting close to the window or far from it?

This image is housed
at the AD&A Museum
UC Santa Barbara!

Adrien Van Ostade, *Painter in the Studio*, etching, 17th c., Art, Design, and Architecture Museum, UC Santa Barbara.

What are 'celestial bodies'?

Celestial →



Terrestrial →



Celestial bodies are...

- the 'things' positioned in the sky or outer space
- the stars, the moon, the sun, the planets
- NOT 'things' on Earth
 - 'things' on the Earth are called terrestrial bodies

...Just like these planets...



In this lesson, we will learn about how art has been, and continues to be, influenced by outer space and the celestial bodies in it.



NOW, LET'S LOOK AT SOME
EXAMPLES...

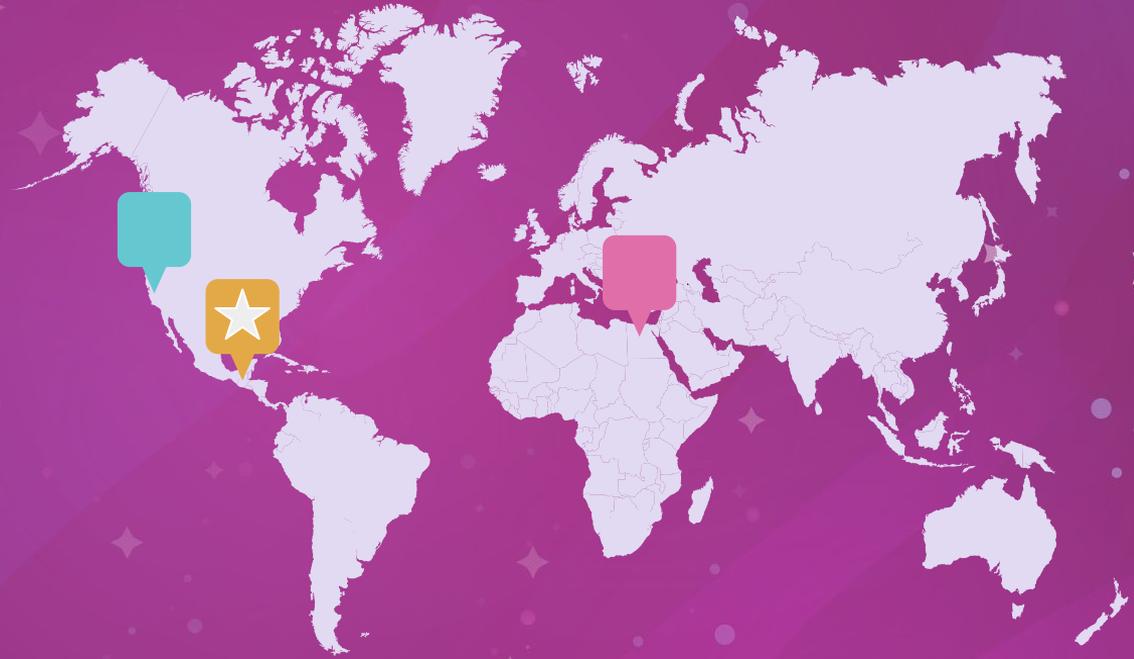


WHERE ARE WE IN THE WORLD?

California

Guatemala

Egypt





The temple rises to 212 feet above the jungle floor. That's as tall as a 20 story building!

◆ Temple IV at Tikal, Guatemala, built about 1,550 years ago, are elevated above the treetops to allow unobstructed viewing of the stars.

WHERE ARE WE IN THE WORLD?

California

Guatemala

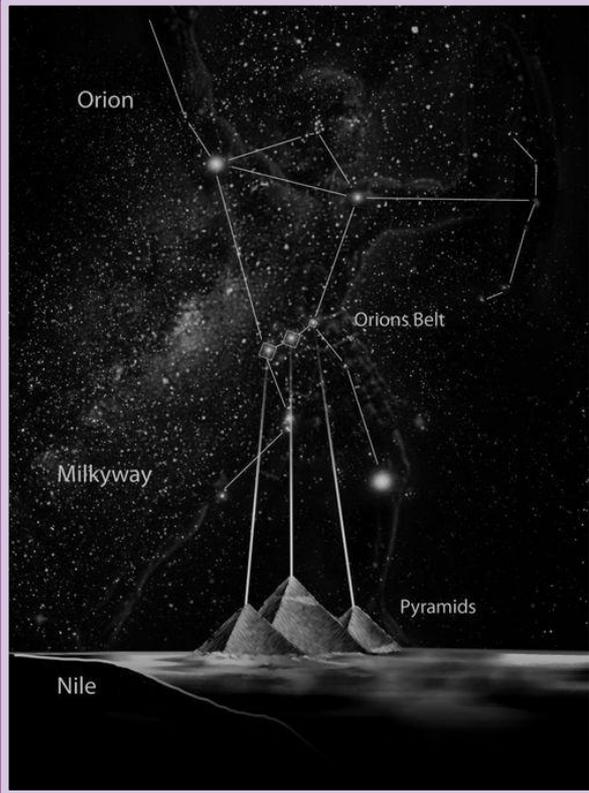
Egypt





Pyramids of Giza, Egypt, built about 4,500 years ago, in alignment with Orion's belt.

In the image below, can you see the outline of a stick-figure man holding a bow and arrow?



What is Orion's Belt?



In the image on the right, can you see three stars in a straight line?

Orion's Belt is...

- part of constellation Orion
- thought of as a hunting belt on the full body of Orion, who draws a bow and arrow

How did ancient Egyptian architects know to align the pyramids with the stars?



- They used tools, like the astrolabe, to find the location of the stars.
- An astrolabe is a tool that measures the distance of the sun and stars above the horizon to help explorers and sailors figure navigate the seas.

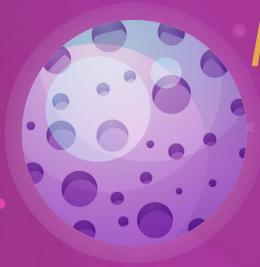


This detail shows Arabic writing inscribed. This means that an Arab 'astronomer' used this tool!

find out what an 'astronomer' is on the next slide...

Planispherical astrolabe, Cairo, Egypt, 1236 CE.

What is an astronomer?



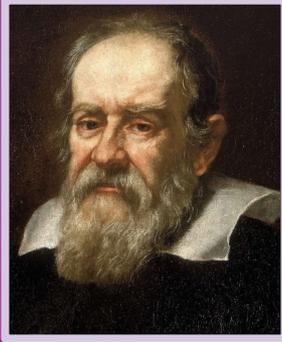
An astronomer is...

a person who studies celestial bodies; their work is called astronomy

Depicted here is a map of the world. The blue stars indicate the home countries of just 12 famous astronomers!

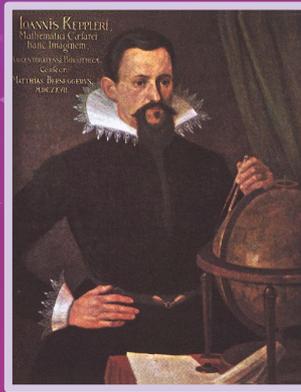


Here are some
astronomers depicted in
paintings...



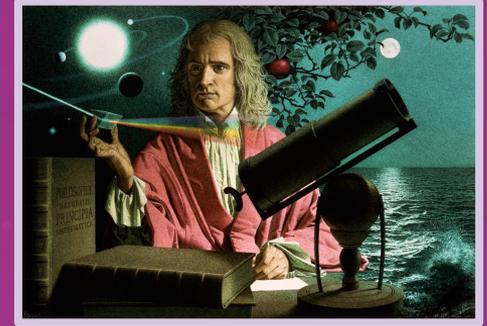
Galileo
Galilei

Galileo Galilei made major improvements to the telescope allowing close observations of the planets. He made many discoveries, like the 4 major moons of Jupiter (the Galilean moons).



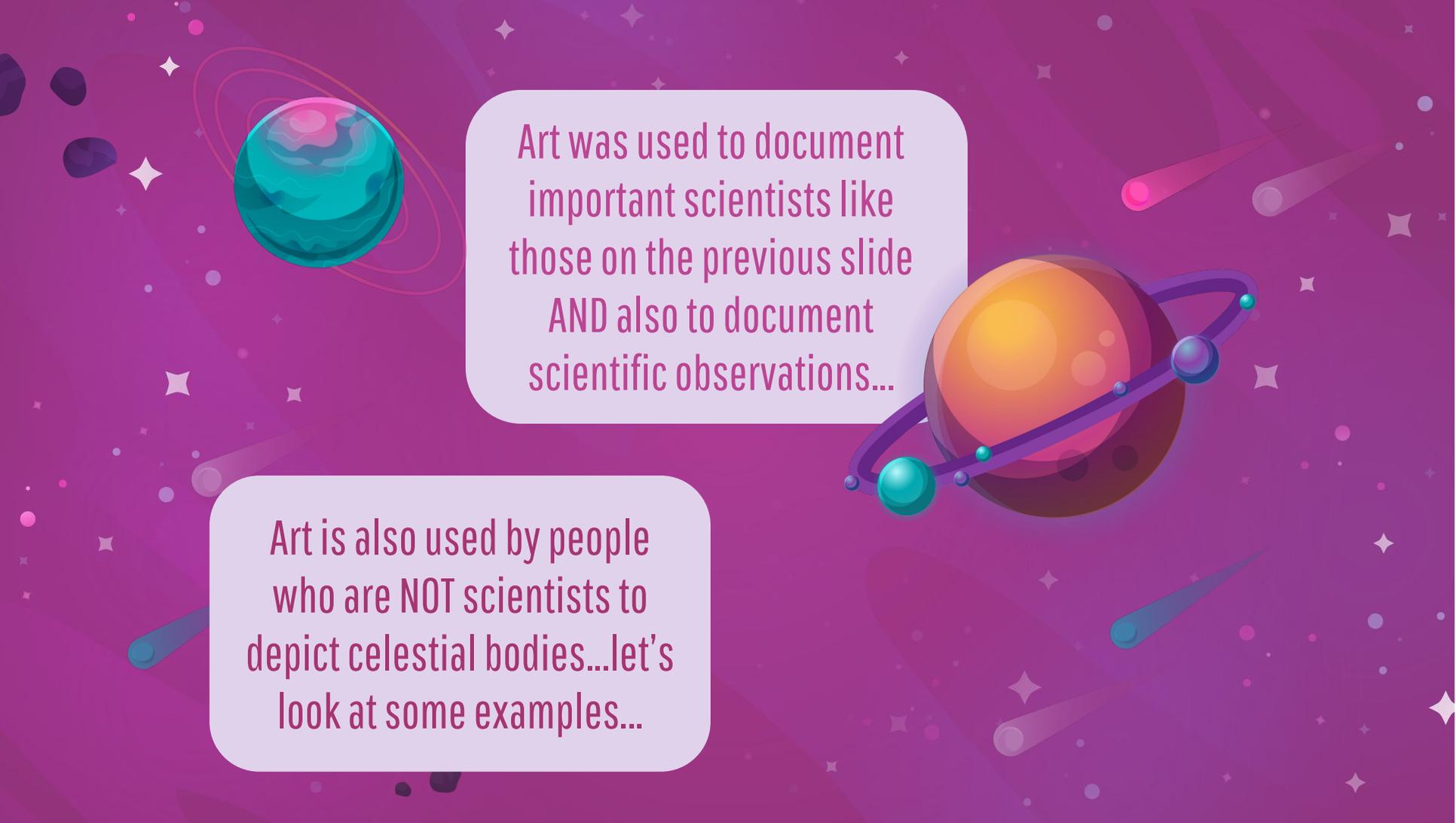
Johannes
Kepler

Johannes Kepler was a famous astronomer and mathematician who came up with the planetary laws of motion that described how the planets orbit the sun.



Isaac
Newton

Isaac Newton explained the solar system using his laws of celestial dynamics and gravitation. He also discovered the existence of galaxies, black holes, neutron stars, and more.



Art was used to document
important scientists like
those on the previous slide
AND also to document
scientific observations...

Art is also used by people
who are NOT scientists to
depict celestial bodies...let's
look at some examples...

WHERE ARE WE IN THE WORLD?

California

Continent of Africa



This basket is
housed at the AD&A
Museum UC Santa
Barbara!

Artwork from about 200 years ago depicting the sun...

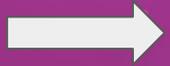


Some questions about this artwork...

- Do you see a circular figure with spikes shooting out of it?
- Do the circular and triangular resemble a sun with its rays shooting out of it?
- What colors do you see?
- Does this artwork seem new or old? Why?

African, Basket, fiber, 20th c., Art, Design, and Architecture Museum, UC Santa Barbara.

WHERE ARE WE IN THE WORLD?



California

Continent of Africa



Recent artwork about The Pyramids at Giza...



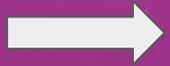
The artist combined multiple photographs together on a computer to create this image, like a digital collage

Some questions about this artwork...

- Does this image look like a painting or a photograph? Why?
- What colors do you see?
- Does this artwork seem new or old? Why?
- Do you see triangular shapes? Where?

Jim Zuckerman, *The Pyramids by Night*, digital composite photograph, 2017

WHERE ARE WE IN THE WORLD?



California

Continent of Africa



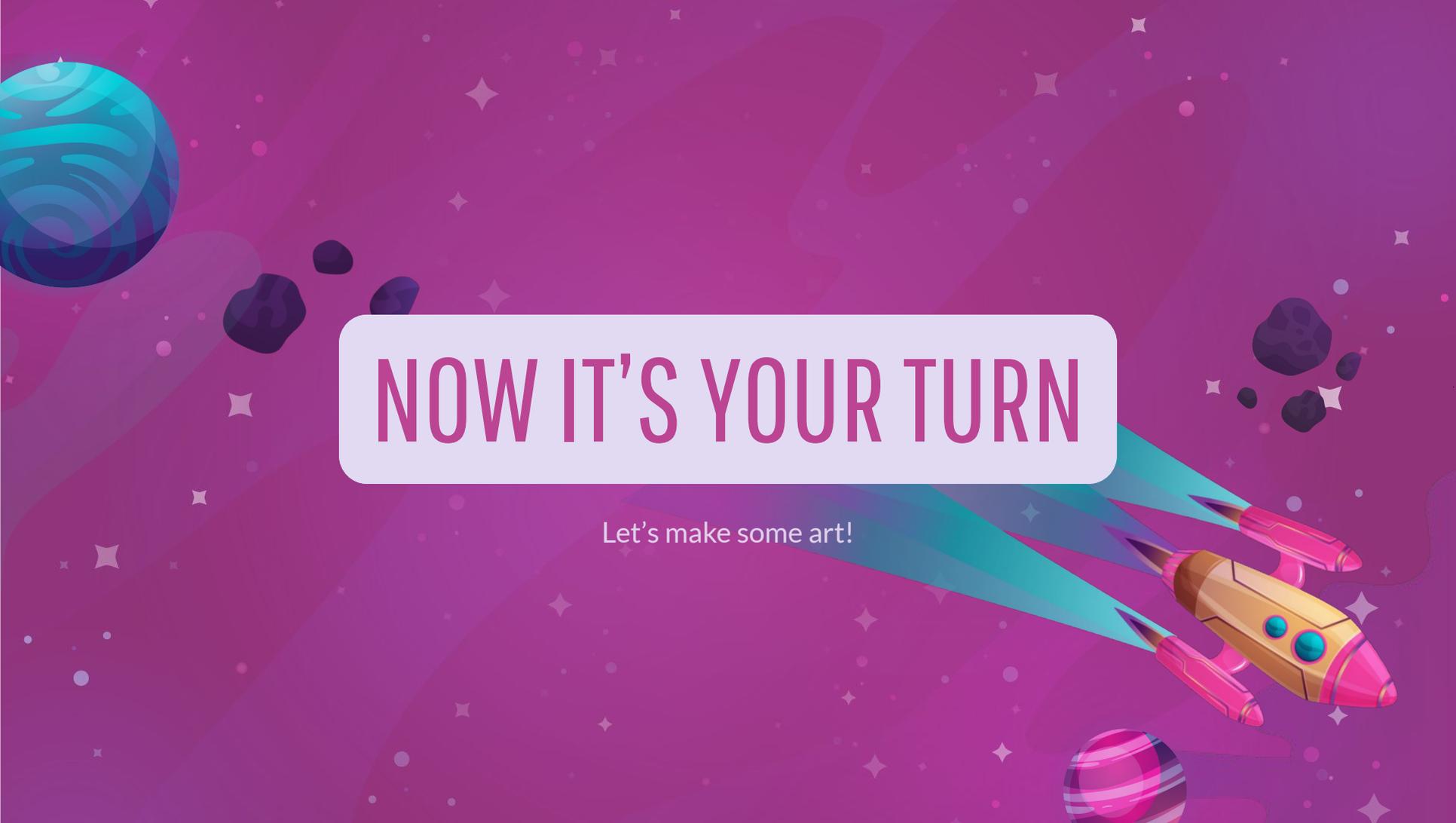
Recent artwork depicting the sun...



Some questions about this artwork...

- What material does this artwork seem to be made of?
- Do you see one image or multiple images?
- What colors do you see?
- Does this artwork seem new or old? Why?
- Do you see arrow shapes?

This collage is housed at the AD&A Museum UC Santa Barbara!

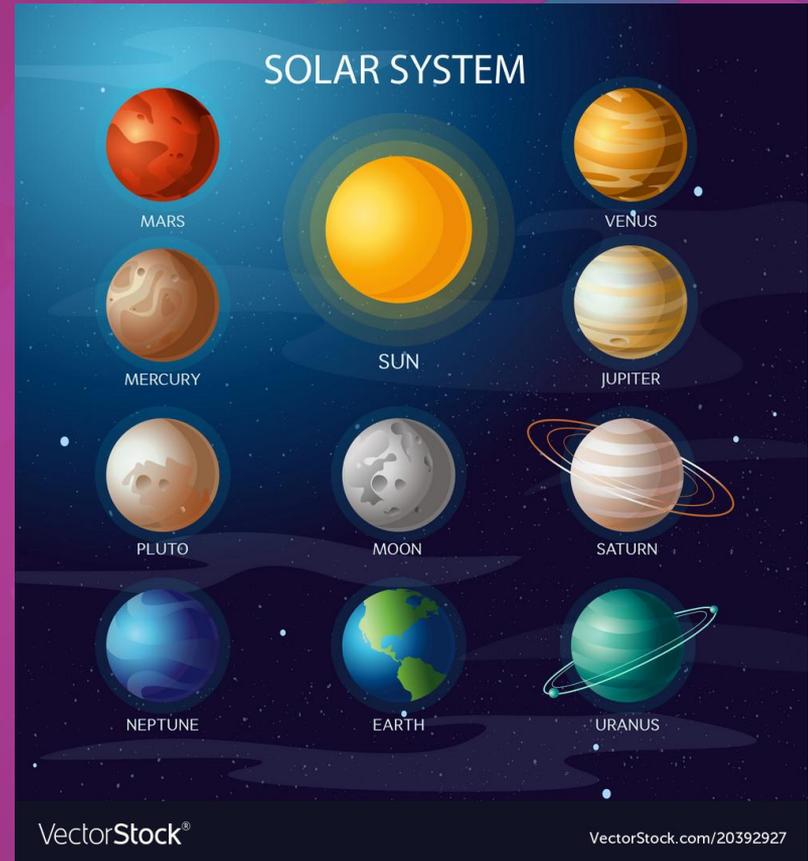
The background is a rich purple with soft, wavy pink and blue patterns. It is filled with white stars of various sizes, dark grey asteroids, and colorful celestial bodies. In the top left, there is a large blue and green striped planet. In the bottom right, there is a smaller pink and white striped planet. Three stylized rockets are flying from the bottom right towards the center. The largest rocket is yellow with pink and blue accents, leaving a wide blue and green trail. Two smaller pink rockets are flying above and below it, also leaving trails. The overall style is playful and artistic.

NOW IT'S YOUR TURN

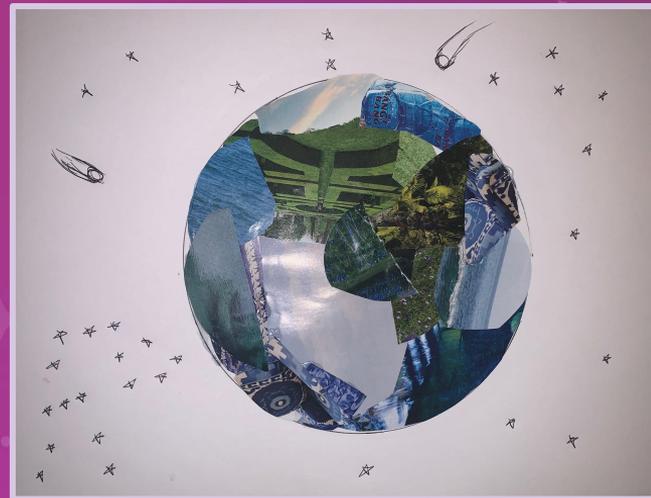
Let's make some art!

◆ INSTRUCTIONS FOR AN OPTIONAL CRAFT

1. Look for the sun, moon, and stars through a window.
2. ◆ If you can't see any celestial bodies, use this image for some ideas! 
3. Pick a celestial body to draw (like the sun, a planet, the stars, the moon). Think about its shapes and colors.
4. Once you have picked which celestial body to depict, find these supplies: a paper, pen, something round to trace, old magazine, glue, and scissors.
5. Trace your round object and draw a circle on the paper (it doesn't have to be perfect)
6. Cut up some magazine pages in the colors of your celestial body, and glue them down any way you want.
7. Draw some stars or comets if you want to! Maybe add glitter if you have it! It is your art...BE CREATIVE :)



◆ EXAMPLE



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