

Hubble Telescope: Viewing the Final Frontier

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One of our group members visited the Johnson Space Center, was impressed by an exhibit about the Hubble Telescope, and he convinced us that we should discover more. We chose the Hubble Telescope as our topic, because we felt it was an excellent example of how the extreme limit of the space frontier and the world's understanding of it was impacted. We felt it was an excellent fit to the theme because the launch of the Hubble Telescope broke through into new frontiers of exploration while enabling amazing discoveries in the vast frontier of space.

We used many different types of sources to conduct our research. We found primary sources in books, newspaper articles, and websites. We watched documentaries, news briefs, and viewed photographs to understand more about our topic. We visited regional public libraries and used the EBSCOhost database. Our most helpful sources were interviews of university professors involved with the Hubble Telescope. We spoke with professors of physics and astronomy who used the Hubble Telescope for research. We saw a piece of the original Hubble Telescope launched in 1990, and we interviewed a member of the Hubble Space Telescope instrument team. We were able to visit the University of South Dakota to use a Virtual Reality headset. This helped us actually see the results through pictures of the James Webb telescope. This helped us develop a better understanding of what the Hubble Telescope is discovering in space.

We decided to create a website because we thought the use of technology would showcase the importance of Hubble. We are also good with computers so we felt the website category would fit our strengths. After researching, we wrote our script and began developing our website. We chose important quotes, images, and media to help our audience understand how the Hubble Telescope allowed scientists to more accurately

explore the frontier of space. We were able to use several clips from interviews to emphasize our research.

Humans have always been fascinated to learn about what lies beyond the earth. As a culmination of many previous inventions, on April 14, 1990, NASA launched the Hubble Telescope into space. Its digital images have expanded scientific understandings of everything from planets in our solar system to dark matter. These pictures of the final frontier of space had a lasting impact on our perspective of space, assisting us to survey galaxies we have never seen before.

Our topic relates to the theme “Frontiers in History: People, Places, Ideas,” because it demonstrates how the invention of the Hubble Telescope broke into the final frontier of space exploration. The Hubble Telescope was the first major telescope placed in space, allowing astronomers an undistorted view of the universe. This important advancement in the study of the space frontier has impacted both scientists and the public’s understanding of the universe and has allowed for further exploration. The Hubble Space Telescope shattered the limits of discovery of the space frontier and made exploration an endless possibility.