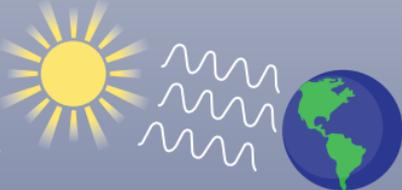


New telescope helps scientists see galaxies from the past

The James Webb Space Telescope launched Dec. 25. It will be able to look back in time to see galaxies formed 13.5 billion years ago because of the way light travels.

The farther away something is in space, the farther back in time it is.



For example, light from the sun takes eight minutes to travel to Earth. When you look at the sun, it is actually what the sun looked like eight minutes ago.

Webb will detect light outside of the visible range that is at near-infrared or mid-infrared wavelengths. This will allow Webb to look into the past to the creation of the first galaxies — farther back in time than the Hubble Space Telescope.

