

The Milky Way

1. Read and complete the following questions.

Our sun is a star. Stars form immense groups called galaxies. A galaxy can contain many millions of stars held together by the force of gravity. Our sun is in a galaxy called the Milky Way. The Milky Way contains hundreds of billions of stars. It is known as a spiral galaxy

The distance from one star and another in a galaxy is very big. The distance from one galaxy to another is millions of times more than the distance between the stars in a galaxy. The universe contains at least one billion galaxies.

Scientists measure distances between stars and galaxies in light years. A light year is the distance light travels one year. Our galaxy is one hundred thousand light years across. Light travels at nearly three hundred thousand kilometres per second. So these distances are very large.

- A) What is a galaxy? **A large group of stars**
- B) How many stars can a galaxy contain? **Millions of stars**
- B) What's the name of our galaxy? **The Milky Way**
- C) What does our galaxy look like? **A spiral**
- D) How big is our galaxy? **One hundred thousand light years**
- E) How do scientists measure distances between stars? **in Light years**