

Vocabulary

Study the vocabulary words and definitions below.

artificial manmade

astronaut a person who flies in a rocket or space shuttle

astronomer one who studies astronomy or makes observations of celestial phenomena

astronomy the science of celestial bodies and their properties

communication satellite a satellite that receives, amplifies, and relays signals

cosmic ray ray of very short wavelength and great power that hits Earth from beyond its atmosphere

detector device for indicating the presence of a certain substance

lunar of or relating to the moon; designed for use on the moon

NASA the abbreviation for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration

orbiter a spacecraft designed to orbit a celestial body without landing on its surface

Vocabulary

payload the load carried by a spacecraft

satellite an object that revolves around a larger object

space probes rocket-launched vehicles that carry instruments, cameras, and other data-gathering equipment for deep-space measurements

space shuttle a reusable spacecraft that carries astronauts into space and returns them to Earth

space stations living quarters in space, equipped with all the necessary instruments to work and live

telecommunication communication over a distance

telescope instrument for making distant objects appear larger and therefore nearer; may use lenses, mirrors, or an antenna

transmitter instrument that sends signals from one place to another

weather satellites satellites that continuously monitor weather conditions