



The Milky Way



The **main idea** of a story tells what the story is mostly about. **Details** in a story tell more information about the main idea.

What do you think of when you hear the words, "Milky Way"? Do you think of a candy bar? Well, there is another Milky Way, and you live in it! It is our galaxy. A galaxy is a grouping of stars. Scientists have learned that there are many galaxies in outer space. The Milky Way is a spiral-shaped galaxy with swirls of stars spinning out from the center of it. Scientists believe there are about 200 billion stars in the Milky Way. One of those stars is the sun. Eight planets orbit the sun. One of them is Earth. Even from Earth, on a clear night away from city lights, you can see part of the Milky Way. It is called that because so many stars close together look like a milky white stripe across the sky. However, if you looked at it with a telescope, you would see that it is made up of thousands of stars.

Complete the main idea and each detail about the story.

Detail:
1. A galaxy is a grouping of _____.

Detail:
2. There are many other galaxies in _____ space.

Detail:
3. It is a _____-shaped galaxy.

Main Idea:
The Milky Way is our _____.

Detail:
4. The Milky Way looks like a milky _____ stripe in the sky.

Detail:
5. One of the stars in the Milky Way is the _____.

Detail:
6. Scientists believe there are about _____ billion stars in it.