

DARK MATTER



INVISIBLE



Dark matter doesn't emit, absorb or reflect light, so it's impossible to 'see'.

Planets, stars, the stuff we can see makes up just



of the universe.

MYSTERIOUS

It's been many decades since we first theorised the existence of dark matter but we still haven't PROVEN it!

DARK MATTER is EVERYWHERE

A PARTICLE?



OR

GRAVITY

Most scientists think dark matter might be a strange type of particle. Others think it could be an undiscovered property of gravity.

IMPORTANT



Scientists think dark matter helps hold the universe together.



Normal 5%

The other 95% is a mystery

DARK MATTER BENDS LIGHT

That's how we know it exists.

DARK MATTER

IS OUT THERE

Advanced detectors help us to



SEARCH

for dark matter

Present day

THE SEARCH GOES ON



1933

Swiss astronomer Fritz Zwicky theorises the existence of a mysterious substance he calls 'dark matter'.



1970's

Vera Rubin discovers evidence to support the existence of dark matter.



1990's onwards

Scientists begin running dark matter particle detectors in deep underground labs.



2000 onwards

Space-based detectors launched to search for indirect evidence of dark matter fragments.



Science & Technology Facilities Council
10 Years of Impact and Inspiration