

We live in the Milky Way Galaxy, which is a collection of stars, gas, dust, and a supermassive black hole at its very center. Our Galaxy is a spiral galaxy, which are rotating structures that are flat (disk-like) like a DVD when looked upon edge-on. There is also a bulge in the middle that consists of mostly old stars. When you look at a spiral galaxy face-on, you can see beautiful spiral arms where stars are being born. Our solar system is in the Orion arm, and we are about 25,000 light years (2.5×10^{17} miles) from the very center of the Galaxy.

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