

Name _____ Period _____ Date _____



Galaxy

STEM Sims

Lesson 1: Using a Database

A database is an organized collection of data or information stored in some electronic form that provides ease of access to users. The ability to use a simple database can save you time in solving problems and identifying trends. In this simulation, you'll use a database to gather needed background information for Lesson 2.

Doing the Science

1. Start the Galaxy Simulation by clicking on the "Sim" tab.
2. Select the Astronomical Database button in the middle of the screen.
3. Select each link to review information for each general astronomical object.
4. Complete Table 1 below and save this information to help you with Lesson 2.

Table 1.

General Astronomical Object	Example Astronomical Object(s)	Most Intense Wavelengths	Least Intense Wavelengths	Most abundant element(s)
Elliptical galaxy				
Globular cluster				
Open cluster				
Planetary nebula				
Planets - Gas giants				
Planets/Moon - Terrestrial				
Reflection nebula				
Spiral galaxy				
Stars				
Supernova - Remnant				

Do You Understand?

1. What is a database and how can a database be useful to you?

