

Lesson 3: Observing Mystery Objects

It's time-traveling time again! This time, we'll be going to France in the 1700s to talk to French astronomer Charles Messier. Messier is observing the sky and making a list of what he finds. Come along with Marshall as he finds out why Messier's list will prove to be important for centuries of astronomers to come.

RESOURCES INCLUDED WITH THIS LESSON:

- Listening Questions
- Discussion Questions

Listening Questions - Lesson 3

- 1) What was Charles Messier looking for every night? How would you describe what he was looking for?

- 2) How could Messier tell which objects were comets and which weren't?

- 3) What were the objects that Messier put in his catalog?

- 4) Messier's catalog is still in use today! Look it up on Google or some other search engine, and see if you can learn something about the objects in Messier's catalog. Do you think you could find one of them?

TUMBLE

SCIENCE PODCAST FOR KIDS

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Do you think it would have been hard to find all the objects in Messier's catalog? Why or why not?

How do you think sky watching has changed since Messier was working? Would he have been able to see more, or less than we can see now?