The universe is everything — from planets, to stars, to galaxies, and beyond.

Four centuries ago, the night sky was thought to hold only five planets, and astronomers were not yet sure whether Earth or the Sun was at the center. Since then, we have measured distances to stars, mapped out the structure of our Milky Way Galaxy, and uncovered galaxies spread throughout the cosmos.

Laws of Planetary Orbits (1629)

Johannes Kepler's laws of planetary motion provided a framework for understanding the movements of planets, which helped astronomers to determine the distances to stars.

Stars of the Milky Way (1781)

William and Caroline Herschel's observations of the night sky revealed the vastness of the Milky Way Galaxy and the thousands of stars that make it up.

Other Galaxies (1925)

The discovery of distant galaxies by Edwin Hubble opened up a new universe beyond the Milky Way and revealed the diversity of galaxies in space.

Galaxies Across Space (1996)

With improved technology and new telescopes, astronomers have been able to observe galaxies across vast distances, revealing the diversity and structure of the universe.

Web of Galaxies (1986)

Three-dimensional maps of galaxies show their relative positions and distances, providing a central view of the universe's structure.

Discovering the Universe

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