

# Space Communications Flashcards

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration

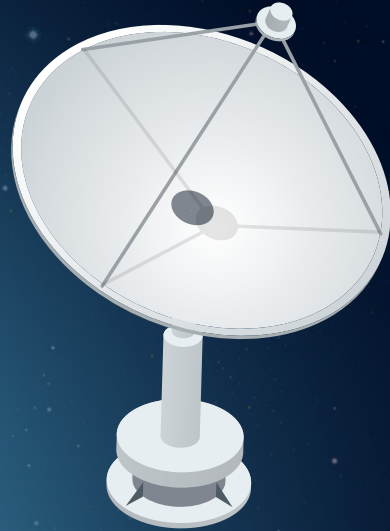


Print this document out using your printer's "double-sided" option and cut out the flashcards.  
From there, you can learn key space communications terms.

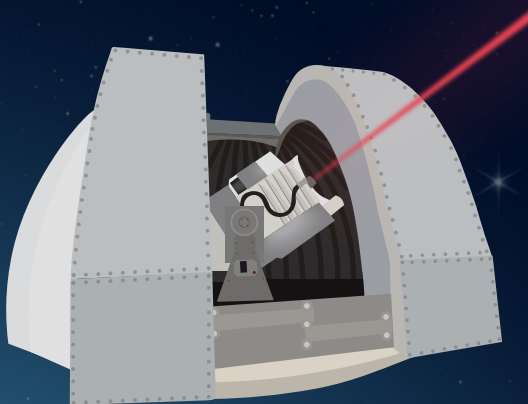
## Data



## Antenna



## Laser Communications



## Radio





# Space Communications Flashcards

## Data

Any information we want to get from space or we want to send to space. Data can be pictures, videos, messages, and more!

## Antenna

A big, curved piece of metal that focuses radio signals. This dish, along with some electronics, can hear or send radio signals. It can use those signals to talk with things in space.

## Laser Communications

Using telescopes to talk to satellites in space. The telescopes make narrow beams of invisible light. These beams are called lasers. Talking with lasers lets us send more information at once than we can with radios.

## Radio

Invisible light that can be used to send information to and from space (or other places) without wires.

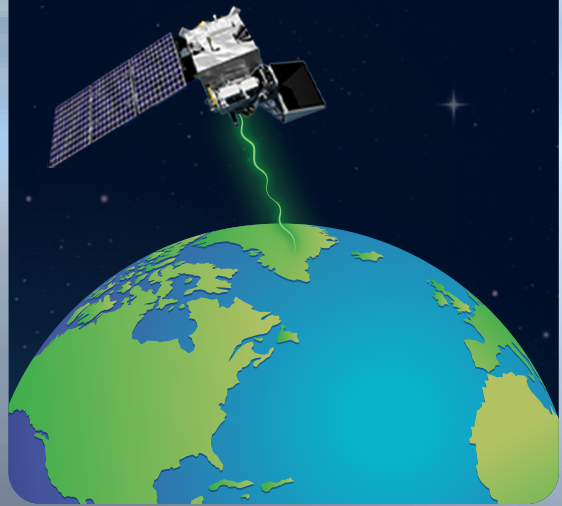


# Space Communications Flashcards

**Speed of Light**



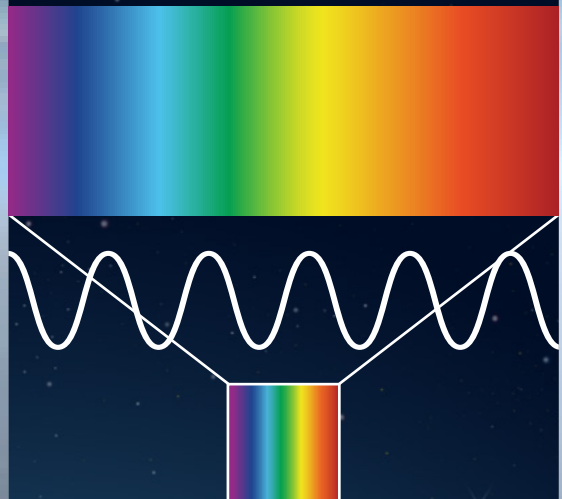
**Space  
Communications**



**Relay Satellite**



**Electromagnetic  
Spectrum**





# Space Communications Flashcards

## Speed of Light

Light moves very, very, very fast. Nothing moves faster than light. All colors of light move at the same speed. Light travels over 600 million miles per hour.

## Space Communications

Talking to or listening to a thing in space.

## Relay Satellite

A satellite in space that connects another satellite with Earth! Relay satellites share information between missions in space that are too far away or blocked by other planets.

## Electromagnetic Spectrum

All the different colors and energies of light and radiation, even ones humans cannot see.





# Space Communications Flashcards

**Orbit**



**Transmit**



**Receive**



**Spacecraft**





# Space Communications Flashcards

## **Orbit**

**To fly around a star, planet,  
moon, or even an asteroid in  
a regular, repeating pattern.**

## **Transmit**

**To send out information.**

## **Receive**

**To get information.**

## **Spacecraft**

**Anything made by humans  
that leaves Earth's  
atmosphere and goes into  
space.**