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Mysterious space object could be monitoring us - 16th December, 2017

Level 4

Astronomers think that aliens could be listening to us on Earth. The astronomers look for signs of alien life beyond Earth. They are excited about a giant space object that just passed Earth. It is 800 meters long and 80 meters wide. The rock has many straight lines so it might not have come from nature. It could have been made by alien life. The scientists called the rock Oumuamua. This means 'messenger' in Hawaiian.

The astronomers first spotted Oumuamua travelling at great speed past Earth. It was about 85 times the distance to the Moon, which is very near if you think about the size of the universe. Oumuamua is the first object in our solar system that appears to come from another galaxy. Its high speed suggests it is outside the pull of the Sun. It is unlikely that Oumuamua proves that aliens exist. The rock is a unique event that could offer new secrets.

Level 5

Astronomers from a program called Breakthrough Listen believe that aliens could be listening to us on Earth. Breakthrough Listen searches for evidence of alien life beyond Earth. The scientists are excited about a giant, mysterious space object that has just passed Earth. The object is an 800-meter-long, 80-meter-wide, cigar-shaped rock. Scientists believe the rock has too many straight lines on it for it to come from nature. This suggests it could have been made by extra-terrestrial life. The scientists called the rock Oumuamua, which means 'messenger' in the Hawaiian language.

The astronomers first spotted Oumuamua as it travelled at great speed through our solar system. It passed Earth at about 85 times the distance to the Moon. This is very near, relative to how big the universe is. Oumuamua is the first object spotted in our solar system that appears to come from another galaxy. Its high speed of 300,000 kph suggests it is outside the gravitational pull of the Sun. It is travelling on its own path. The scientists said it was unlikely that Oumuamua was proof that aliens exist. The huge rock and its journey is a unique event that could offer new secrets.

Level 6

Scientists believe there is a possibility that aliens are listening to us on Earth. Astronomers from a program called Breakthrough Listen are excited about a giant, mysterious space object that has passed close to our planet. Breakthrough Listen scientists search for evidence of civilizations beyond Earth. The scientists work at the University of Hawaii. They described the object as an 800-meter-long, 80-meter-wide, cigar-shaped rock. Some scientists believe the rock has too many straight lines on it for it to be formed naturally. This suggests it could have been designed by some form of alien extra-terrestrial. The scientists have dubbed the rock Oumuamua, which means 'first messenger' in the Hawaiian language.

The astronomers first spotted Oumuamua in October. It was travelling at great speed through the solar system and passed Earth at about 85 times the distance to the Moon. This is just a hair's breadth relative to the vast expanses of the universe. Oumuamua is the first object spotted in the solar system that appears to originate from another star system. The astronomers say its high speed of over 300,000 kph suggests it is outside the gravitational pull of the Sun and is instead travelling on its own path that originated in another galaxy. The scientists that it was highly unlikely that Oumuamua was a sign that aliens existed, but the huge rock and its journey was a unique event that possibly offered new secrets.