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2021 to be huge for space exploration – 4th January, 2021

Level 4

Astronomers predict 2021 will be great for space exploration. More organisations are investing in technology to explore space. Entrepreneurs are setting their sights on space tourism and on going to Mars. Science fiction is now becoming space fact. Many advances in technology no longer surprise us. These include things like mining for asteroids, colonising Mars, or taking weekend breaks to the Moon.

This year will start with a NASA project to help us understand the universe. A probe will study the collision of small particles in space to find out how planets formed. A NASA rover will also land on Mars to test for signs of microbial life. NASA said: "Returning samples of Mars to Earth has been a goal of planetary scientists since the early days of the space age." In October, a telescope will look at the first galaxies that formed in the universe.

Level 5

Astronomers are predicting that 2021 will be great for space exploration. More countries and companies are investing in technology to venture into the heavens. Entrepreneurs like SpaceX's Elon Musk are setting their sights on space tourism and on sending astronauts to Mars. What once seemed like science fiction is now becoming space fact. There are many advances in technology that no longer surprise us. These include things like asteroids being mined, Mars being colonised, or holidays and weekend breaks to the Moon.

This year will start with a project to help scientists better understand the universe. NASA will launch a probe to study the collision of small particles in space. This will help us understand how planets formed. A month later, a NASA rover will land on Mars. This will test for signs of past microbial life. NASA said: "Returning samples of Mars to Earth has been a goal of planetary scientists since the early days of the space age." In October, the James Webb Space Telescope will launch into space. Its mission is to observe the first galaxies that formed in the early universe.

Level 6

Cosmologists, astronomers and space engineers are predicting that 2021 will be a great year for space exploration. An increasing number of countries and commercial companies are investing in technology to venture into the heavens. Entrepreneurs like SpaceX's Elon Musk and Virgin Galactic's Richard Branson are setting their sights on space tourism and sending astronauts to Mars. What once seemed like science fiction is quickly becoming space fact. Such are the advances in technology, we might no longer be surprised at news of asteroids being mined, Mars being colonised, or of new forms of holidays, such as getaway weekend breaks to the Moon.

The year will start with an exciting project that will help scientists better understand the universe. NASA will launch its Q-PACE probe on January the 15th. This will study the collision of small particles in space to provide an insight into how planets originally formed. A month later, NASA's Perseverance rover will land on Mars. This mission will test for signs of possible past microbial life. NASA said: "Returning samples of Mars to Earth has been a goal of planetary scientists since the early days of the space age." In October, the James Webb Space Telescope, the successor to the Hubble Telescope, will launch into space. Its mission is to observe the first galaxies that formed in the early universe.