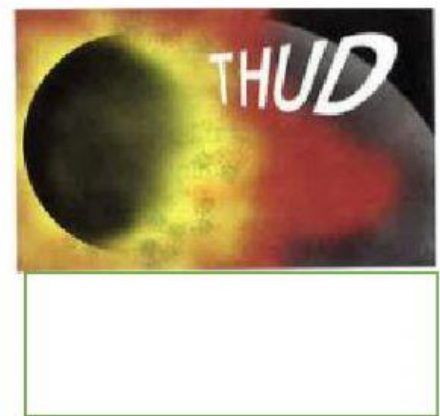
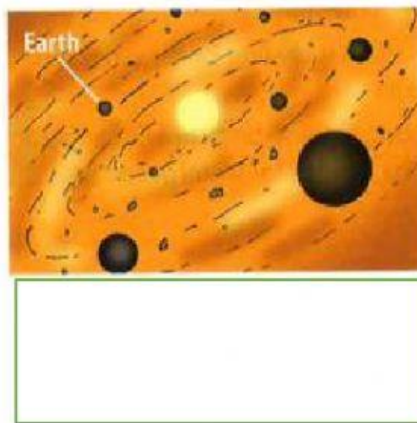
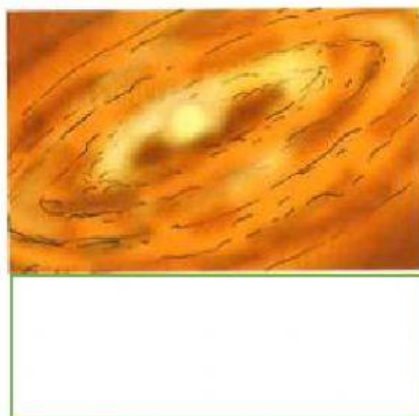
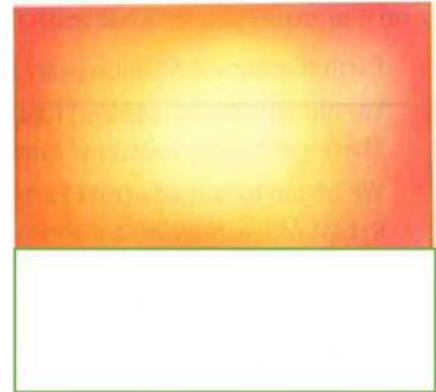
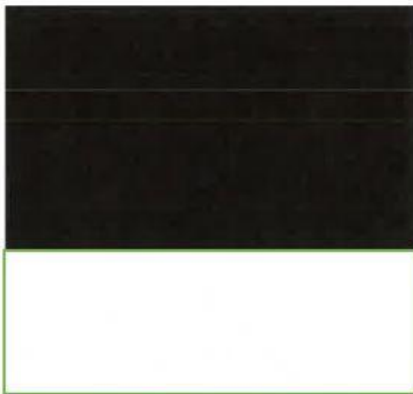


Unit 1: It's your planet!

Unit 1.1-Earth's story: it begins with a bang

By looking at the pictures below of how earth began, choose appropriate description for each from the box below, drag and drop the under the right picture.



Once upon a time, long long ago, there was nothing. No Universe, no stars, no Earth, no people.

Dust and gases spun around the Sun. A force called **gravity** pulled them together to form rocks ...

It was the start of the **Universe**! In an instant, tiny particles had formed, from which atoms would be made.

Over time, trillions of stars formed, in groups called **galaxies**. (And died when their reactions stopped.)

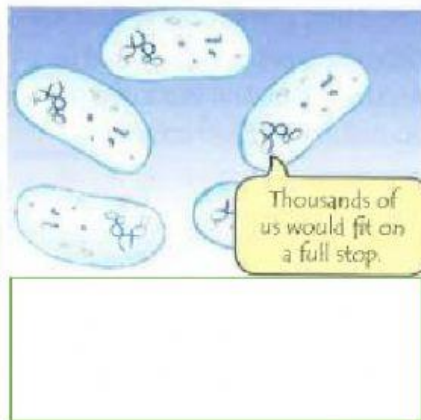
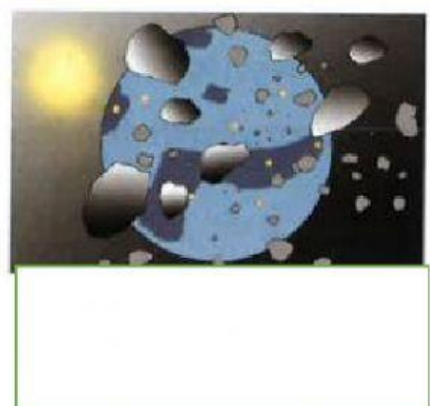
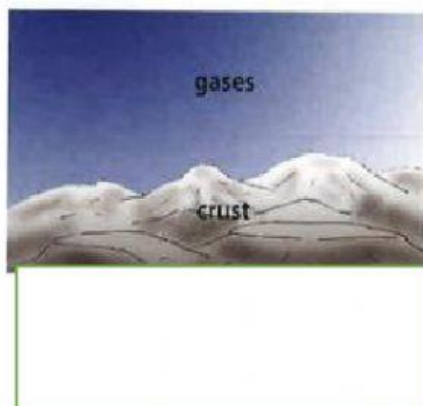
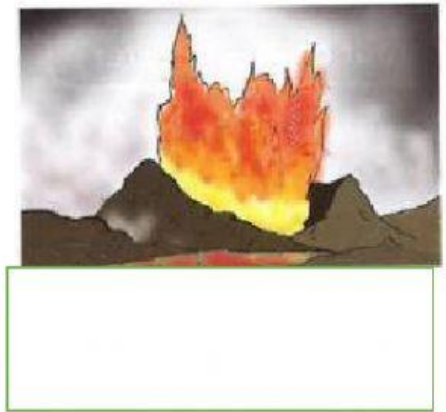
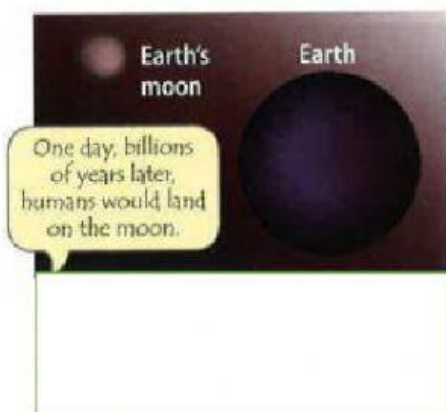
About 4.6 billion years ago, in a galaxy called the Milky Way, a very special star was born: our **Sun**.

But suddenly, about 13.8 billion years ago, there was a violent explosion of energy: the **Big Bang**.

Soon after Earth formed, while it was still hot soft rock, a smaller planet struck it.

About 2 million years after the Big Bang, the first **star** appeared: a hot glowing ball of hydrogen gas.

... and the rocks merged to form **planets**. One of these was **Earth**. It is around 4.5 billion years old.



Around Earth was a layer of **gases**: the **atmosphere**. It had a lot of water vapour in it.

... that led to something amazing, around 3.5 billion years ago: the first tiny living **cells**.

So this is Earth, 3.9 billion years ago. Soft inside. A hard crust. An ocean. And ... bombarded by **meteorites**!

Slowly, over millions of years, Earth's surface cooled, and a hard crust formed. But often ...

Those first tiny cells in the ocean, far too small to see, would one day lead to someone special: **you**!

They fell into the ocean, carrying compounds from space. It may have been these compounds ...

As the crust cooled, water vapour condensed to form rain. This poured down. The **ocean** began to form.

... the crust was split by boiling liquid rock (lava) from below. These were the first **volcanoes**!

The impact flung rock and dust into space. Gravity pulled them together. The result: our **moon**!