

**Instructions:** Read Sagan's "Cosmic Calendar" below and choose just one term to highlight in the description of each date. Also choose 3–4 unfamiliar words to circle on the calendar.



A Hubble telescope photograph of a spiral galaxy Source: Messier 66 in the Leo Triplet (captured by the Hubble Space Telescope), Wikimedia

## PRE-DECEMBER DATES

**Big Bang** 

Origin of the Milky Way Galaxy Origin of the solar system Formation of the Earth Origin of life on Earth Formation of the oldest rocks known on Earth Date of oldest fossils (bacteria and blue-green algae) Invention of sex (by microorganisms) Oldest fossil photosynthetic plants Eukaryotes (first cells with nuclei) flourish

- January 1 May 1
- September 9
- September 14
- ~ September 25 October 2 October 9
- ~ November 1 November 12 November 15
- ~ = Approximately

Click for a possible response.



## Highlighting Exercise: Carl Sagan's "Cosmic Calendar"

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