Read the short story and answer each question.



The Girl Who Loved Stars

Long ago, a girl named Vera looked up at the sky every night. She did not see just stars—she saw questions.

She wanted to know how stars moved. She wanted to know what made them shine.

When Vera grew up, she became a scientist. She studied space with a big telescope.

A telescope helps people see things that are far away. Vera looked at stars and took notes.

She saw something surprising. The stars on the edge of a galaxy moved faster than expected.

Vera's discovery helped scientists learn more about space. Her work showed that something unseen was there.

That "something" is called dark matter. Vera's ideas changed how people think about the universe.

All because she asked questions about the stars.



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The Girl Who Loved Stars

- 1. What tool did Vera use to study the stars?
- A. A rocket ship
- B. A telescope
- C. A microscope
- D. A camera

- 2. What did Vera discover about stars in a galaxy?
- A. They made music
- B. They didn't move at all
- C. They moved slower than expected
- D. They moved faster than expected

3. Fill	in	the	Ы	lan	k:
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Vera's big idea helped people learn more about

4. What do you think helped Vera make a big discovery?

5. How did the illustrations help you understand Vera's work?

Parent and Teacher Guide

Guide Reading Level: F **Lexile Level:** 85L-225L

Grade Level: 1st Grade, Beginning of the Year

Genre: Nonfiction – Biography

Introducing the Text

"Today, we're going to learn about a real person named Vera who looked at the stars and asked big questions. As we read, we'll use the words and pictures to learn about her discovery and how it helped scientists learn more about space."

Vocabulary: scientist, telescope, galaxy, dark matter, discovery

Before Reading Discussion Questions

- 1. What do you know about stars or space?
- 2. Have you ever looked through a telescope?
- 3. Why do you think people study space?

During Reading Discussion Questions

- 1. What kinds of questions did Vera ask as a child?
- 2. What tool helped Vera study the stars?
- 3. How do the pictures help you understand what Vera saw?

After Reading Discussion Questions

- 1. Why was Vera's discovery important?
- 2. What does this story teach us about asking questions?
- 3. Can you think of a question you would ask if you studied space?

Activity Idea

Give students black paper and white chalk or crayons. Ask them to draw their own galaxy, then write a question they might ask if they were a scientist like Vera. Let students present their galaxies and questions to the group.

