

## SPACE—SATURN HAS THOSE ICY RINGS:

The sixth planet, Saturn, is the second largest. It is also a gas giant and has several rings made of ice and rocky **debris**. Saturn is a beautiful planet observed from a telescope, and has sixty-two moons.

### ACTIVITY:

- 1) Find pictures from a source such as NASA of Saturn and its rings. See if you can find any photos of the rings close up to see what they are made of.
- 2) How do we take photos that far away in space? See if you can find out what they use and how it works.

Titan is the biggest moon in orbit around Saturn. Astronomers believe it has an atmosphere and may potentially have life on it. If there is life then it would be in the form of microscopic organisms, not aliens that we could communicate with.

### ACTIVITY 2:

- 1) What is a microscopic organism?
- 2) Do we have microscopic organisms on Earth?
- 3) What are more common names for microscopic organisms?
- 4) What is an orbit?
- 5) What makes an object in space orbit another object in space?

Uranus is the seventh planet out from our sun and is also a gas giant and the third largest planet. It has a thick cloudy atmosphere, and on the surface it is -224 degrees Celsius. The **axis of rotation** for Uranus is tilted, and where we have the Equator on Earth, Uranus has its North and South poles. Interestingly, the equators are the hottest parts of Uranus, and we do not yet know why.

