

LIFE

on other planets?

In *The Revenge of the Fallen* robots visit Earth from another planet but is there really life out there in space?

UFOs

People started to see 'flying saucers' a long time ago. Now we call them Unidentified Flying Objects, or UFOs. But do spaceships from other planets really visit the Earth?

This picture shows something strange but it isn't a UFO. We know that the weather made the 'flying saucer' shape.



We now know that this picture is Halley's Comet. A long time ago, people thought it was a sign of bad things. People see other strange things in the sky too, but they are not spaceships from another planet. Sometimes they are balloons, aircraft, bright planets or stars, or unusual clouds. However, nobody can explain between 5% and 20% of the UFOs.



A sixty-year old secret

In 1952, some RAF¹ pilots were flying over West Germany in planes like these. They were on their way home. One of the pilots saw a large metal shape beside his plane. It stayed beside him for a few seconds then it flew away very quickly. The other pilots did not see it, but the radar on the ground did see it. The other pilots called the pilot 'Saucer Sam' and painted a picture on his plane. The pilot told important people in the RAF and in the government. He said the shape was about 33 metres across. The important people wrote notes about the pilot's story but they didn't tell anyone. In 2012, the government let everyone see the notes. Nobody knows what it was but everyone agrees that the pilot saw something strange.



¹ RAF is the Royal Air Force in the UK.

Messages from us in space, just in case ...

In 1977, the Voyager spaceship went into space and took the Voyager Golden Records with it. You can hear different sounds from Earth on them, for example, the sound of birds and whales, the wind and different music. You can also hear people speaking in fifty-five different languages. The American President Jimmy Carter also included a message. There are some pictures on the records as well.



The Voyager spaceship passed Pluto in 1990. It has travelled further than any other spaceship from Earth. In about 40,000 years, Voyager will get near to some different stars. There, it might find intelligent life!

What do you think?
Do UFOs exist? Will anyone listen to the Voyager Records?

What do these words mean?
You can use a dictionary.
space shape pilot radar