

## WHAT IS A BLACK HOLE?

Black holes are found in space. A black hole is not really a hole. It used to be a star.

A black hole is sometimes found in space when a star has died. Where the star used to be there is a small area of space with gravity so strong that light cannot escape from it. Since light cannot escape, the black hole is invisible. That is why a black hole does not shine the way a star does.

spiral galaxy

## GLOSSARY

galaxy: a huge group of stars

gravity: a force that pulls two objects together

invisible: unable to be seen

a star being sucked into a black hole



## BLACK HOLES AND GRAVITY

A black hole has very strong gravity. Gravity is a force that attracts objects to one another. A black hole works a bit like water going down a plug hole. The water goes round and round until it is sucked down the plug hole. Anything near a black hole is sucked into it because of the strong pull of gravity. A black hole can even suck in huge stars!