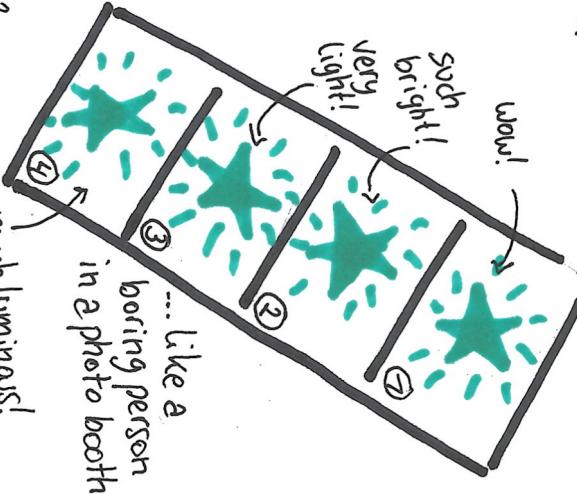
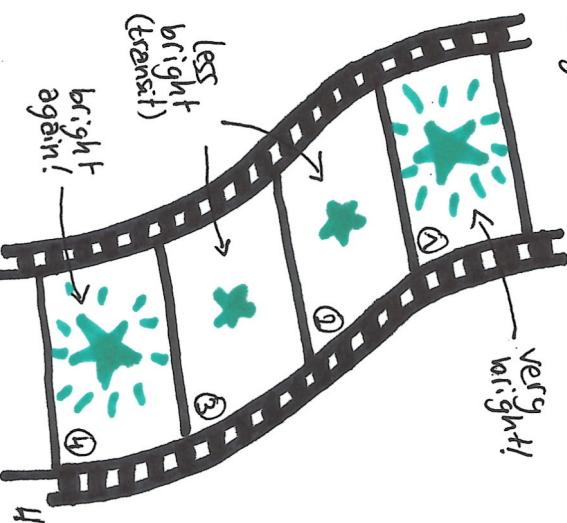


Hence, how it works: first, many pictures of a star over the course of many months or years; astronomers on Earth take many pictures of a star over the course of many months or years.

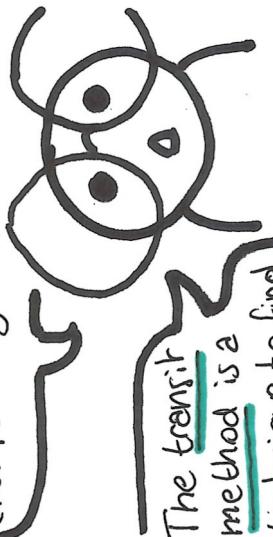


Then, we look at the pictures. Most of the time, they will all look the same...

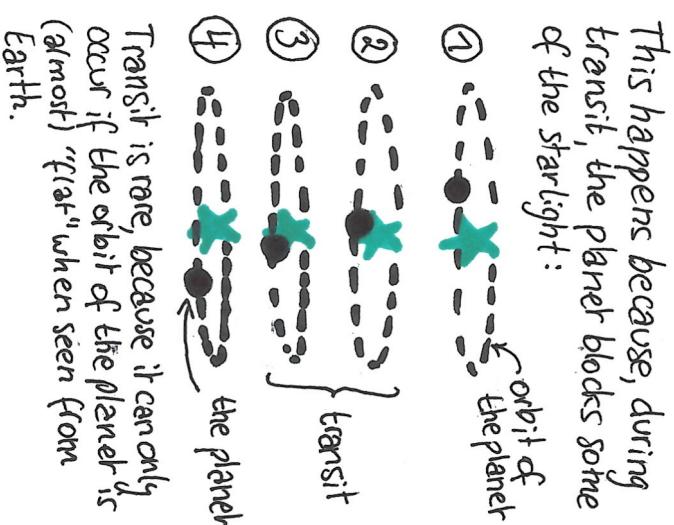


However, if we're lucky, then a planet will transit (pass) in front of the star, making it less bright:

An exoplanet is a planet located outside the solar system. They are difficult to find because they are small, dim, located outside the solar system.



exoplanets without telescopes to find them!



This happens because, during transit, the planet blocks some of the starlight:

How to FIND EXOPLANETS

Part II, The Transit Method

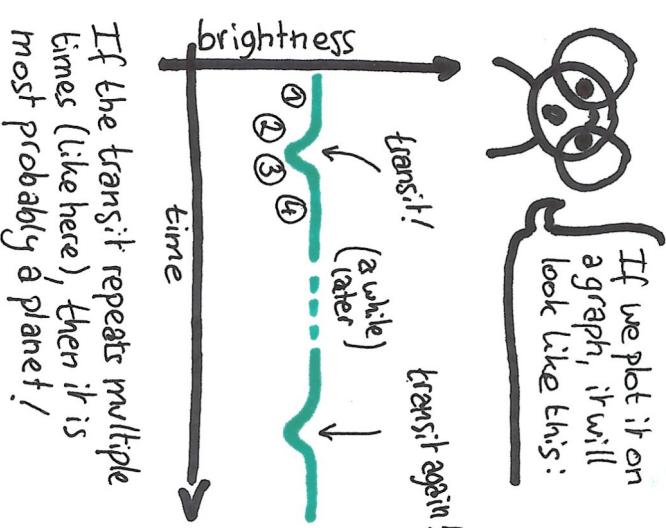


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A mini-Sci-Zine by

For more info, check the website of the Planetary Society: WWW.PLANETARY.ORG and search for "Transit Photometry".

KEEP LEARNING!



Transit is rare, because it can only occur if the orbit of the planet is (almost) "flat" when seen from Earth.

If the transit repeats multiple times (like here), then it is most probably a planet!