**Unit G: Solar System**

**Spacecraft** – includes rockets, satellites, probes, space stations, and space shuttles

**Astronomer** - a scientist who studies objects and events beyond Earth’s atmosphere, such as the composition or movement of stars and planets

**Star** - a huge ball of gas that gives off heat and light

**Planet** – smaller than a star, revolves around a star and reflects that star's light

**Earth’s moon** – object that orbits the earth

**Meteors** – small objects that are pieces of rock that fall into earth's atmosphere and usually burn up

**Galaxies** – collection of millions of stars, our galaxy is called the Milky Way

**Solar system** – the collection of space objects around and including the sun

**Scale** – a ratio between the actual size of an object and its size in a model

**Astronomical unit** – unit of measure for distance in space, 1AU is 150,000,000 km, the distance from the Sun to Earth

**Nuclear reaction** – a change in the nuclei (the center) of an atom, produces energy

**Nuclear fusion** – smaller atoms combine to form larger atoms, releases large amount of energy

**Remote sensing** – any procedure that provides information about an object without us touching or directly observing the object

**Gravity** – a natural phenomenon that causes any two objects to be pulled together

**Force** – any push or pull

**Mass** – the measurement of the amount of matter or stuff that makes up an object

**Weight** – the pull of gravity between an object and the planet or moon