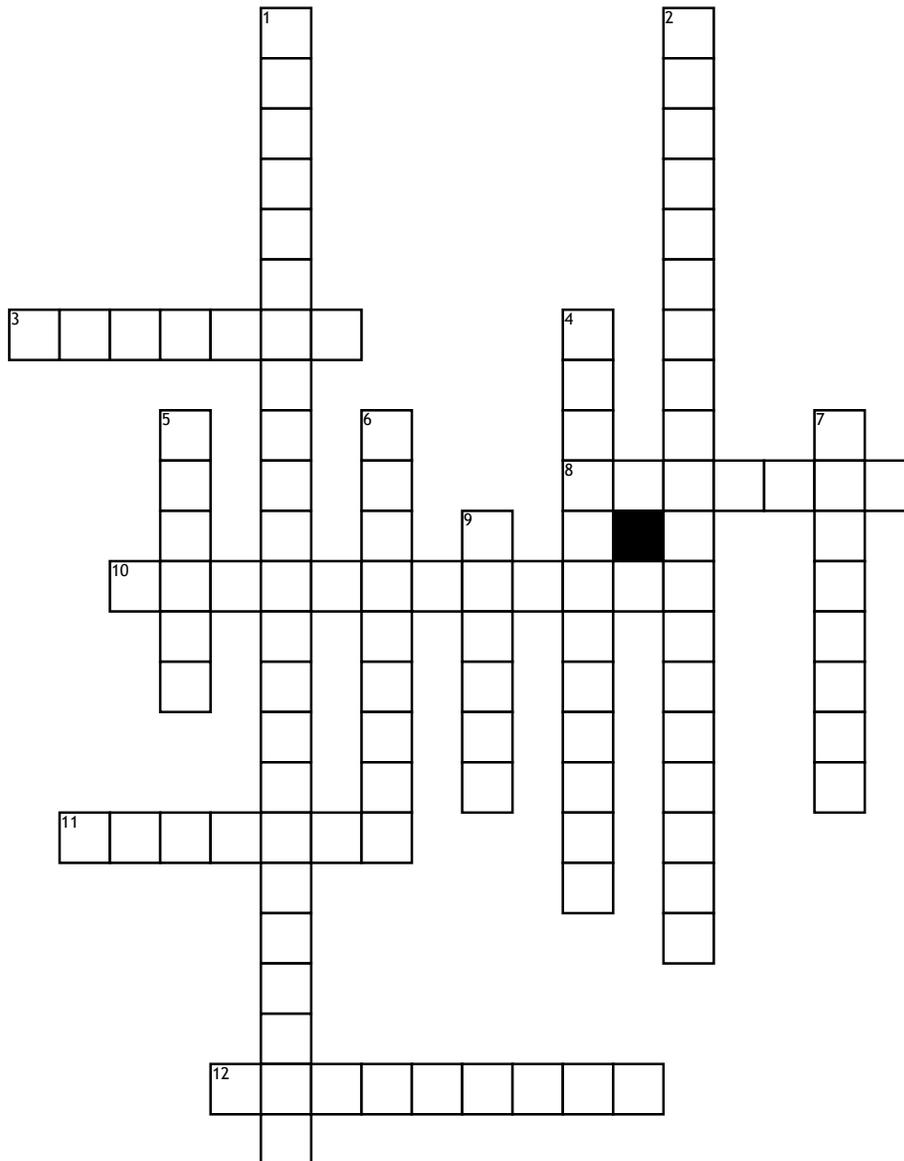


Astronomy Vocabulary



Across

3. Process in which heavy atomic nuclei split into smaller, lighter atomic nuclei.

8. Time of year during which Earth's axis is at a 90° angle to the sun; both hemispheres receive exactly 12 hours of sunlight and the sun is directly overhead at the equator.

10. Gigantic threadlike or sheetlike cluster of galaxies that is hundreds of millions of light-years in size

11. An oval that is centered on two points called foci; the shape of planet's orbits.

12. Massive explosion that occurs when the outer layers of a star are blown off.

Down

1. All types of electromagnetic radiation arranged according to wave length and frequency.

2. The state at which an orbiting body's orbital and rotational periods are equal.

4. ratio of the distance between the foci to the length of the major axis; defines the shape of a planets elliptical orbit.

5. Large cloud of interstellar gas and dust that collapses on itself, due to its own gravity, and forms a hot, condensed object that will become a new star.

6. Small, extremely dense remnant of a star whose gravity is so immense that not even light can escape its gravitational field.

7. Period when the sun is overhead at its farthest distance either North or South of the equator.

9. The combining of lightweight nuclei into heavier nuclei; occurs in the core of the sun where temperatures and pressure are extremely high.