



USING ITS NEW INFRARED-SENSITIVE WIDE FIELD CAMERA 3, NASA'S HUBBLE SPACE TELESCOPE DOCUMENTS A PATCH OF SOUTHERN SKY AND RECORDS IMAGES OF THE EARLIEST AND MOST DISTANT GALAXIES EVER SEEN

This early period of cosmic history is referred to as the "dark ages." The universe itself is estimated to be almost 13.7 billion years old; the light from the newly discovered galaxies has been traveling for 13 billion years, born just 500-800 million years after the Big Bang. The Wide Field Camera 3 is able to view infrared light, allowing it to capture older cosmic objects as they shift in light to longer, redder wavelengths - also known as heat or radiation.

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