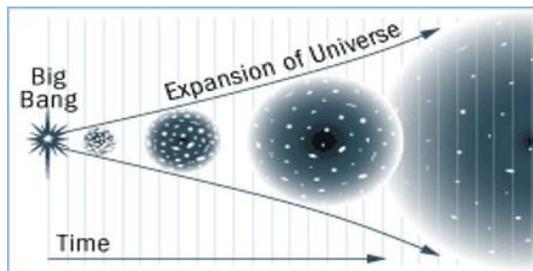


### Science V10/S5: The Big Bang

The Big Bang is the theory that the universe was created in one explosion. Every piece of matter the universe has now was concentrated into one tiny point. The explosion forcefully pushed the matter out and created our universe. This matter was hot and traveled fast but has since both cooled and slowed down. The universe is still expanding but at a much slower rate. Scientists believe the expansion is caused by a mysterious substance called dark matter.



The explosion that created the universe is unlike any explosion we can see on earth today. The Big Bang should be thought of more as a forceful expansion than an explosion. The Big Bang is difficult for us to wrap our minds around, but scientists use tools like telescopes to look deep into space.

There are many religious and cultural ideas on how the universe was created, but almost all scientists believe that the universe was created by the Big Bang. Astrophysicists have found a lot of evidence supporting the expansion of the universe. Scientists tracking the lights of other galaxies have noticed the lights moving farther apart in space. Because of the universe's expansion, there is no exact edge of the universe. In fact, there are parts of the universe that we will never see.

#### How did the Big Bang happen?



Step 1:	Step 2:	Step 3:	Step 4:
All of the universe's matter was in a hot ball.	The matter exploded in one forceful event.	The matter was pushed outward and created the universe.	The universe continues to expand and cool.