TELESCOPES FROM THE CHERENKOV TELESCOPE ARRAY

THE MOST IMPORTANT PARTS OF THE THREE LIGHT-CATCHERS POINTED OUT WITH SIMPLE WORDS

These three light-catchers will help us see light from outer-space with lots of power. This light cannot be seen with our eyes and is only made in special places. When this light hits the air around the Earth, a special blue flash of light is made that is gathered up by these light-catchers. By looking at how bright the flash is, we can work out how much power the light from space had. Large light-catchers are best for seeing small flashes, because they can gather a lot of light with their big mirrors, allowing a picture-taker to image them. Small light-catchers are best for seeing the big flashes that do not happen very often. There is so much light given out in a big flash that we only need small mirrors to catch enough light to see them and by building lots of these small light-catchers over a wide area, we will have a much higher chance of finding them. Middle size light-catchers are best for seeing most of the flashes in the night sky that are not big and not small, but in-between.

