

# *Astro-Madness*

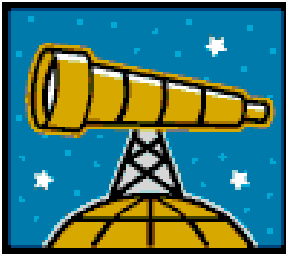
## *Introduction*



In this activity, you are going to learn about the different telescopes and instruments that are available at the McDonald Observatory. You will then use this information to assist a group of scientists in deciding which of McDonald Observatory's resources will best suit their projects.

First, research the telescopes at McDonald Observatory on the *What Are Astronomers Doing?* website at <http://mcdonaldobservatory.org/research/>. There are four of them: the 0.8 m Telescope, the Otto Struve Telescope, the Harlan J. Smith Telescope, and the Hobby-Eberly Telescope.

For each of the telescopes, consider information like the diameter of the mirror, what the mirror is made of, and any other facts you think you would need to know. Write this information into Data Table #1.



Next, learn about the different instruments. Some instruments can only be used on certain telescopes. You should also look at what the instrument will produce, like pictures or spectrograms. Write this information into Data Table #2.

Finally, figure out what telescope and instrument(s) would work best for the scientists and their projects. You will need to refer to your Data Tables for this information.

Good Luck!