James Webb Space Telescope

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This artist's concept shows the cold side

of the Webb telescope, where the mirrors

and instruments are positioned.

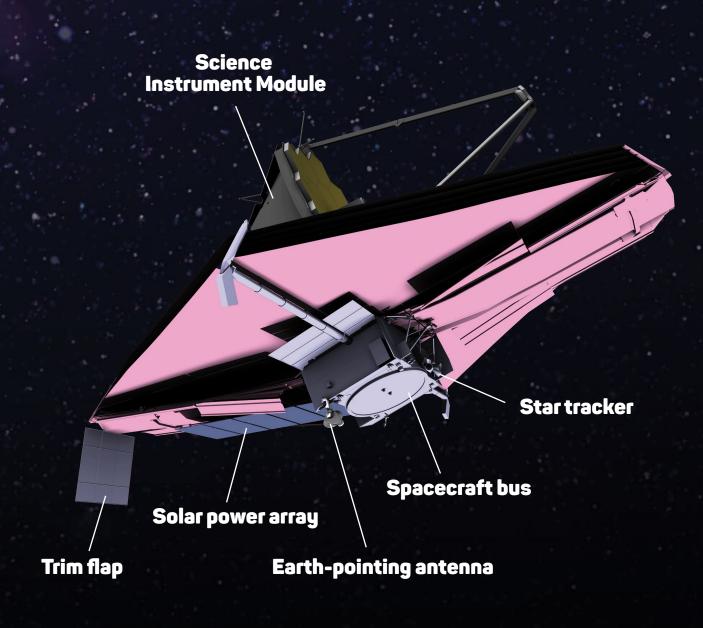
Primary mirror

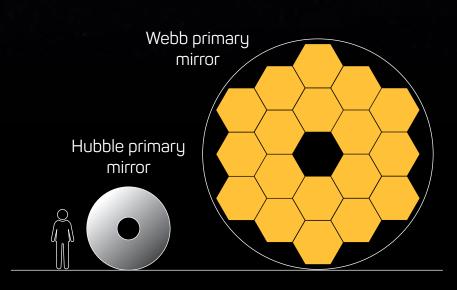
Secondary mirror

Multilayer sunshield

NASA's James Webb Space Telescope will be the largest telescope ever sent into space.

The Webb telescope's innovative design is devoted to reflecting, collecting, and imaging infrared light in order to continue our exploration of the universe. The telescope tackles the two primary challenges of using an infrared telescope: collecting light and keeping cool. The huge mirror will allow Webb to capture the low-energy, long infrared wavelengths of light. And the giant sunshield will protect the telescope from stray heat and light, keeping unwanted sources of infrared energy from interfering. Webb will bring us the clearest picture ever of objects that emit this invisible energy, helping us explore the formation of early galaxies, the atmospheres of distant planets, and even the development of our own solar system!





Webb's larger light-collecting area will let us look out even further into deep space.

