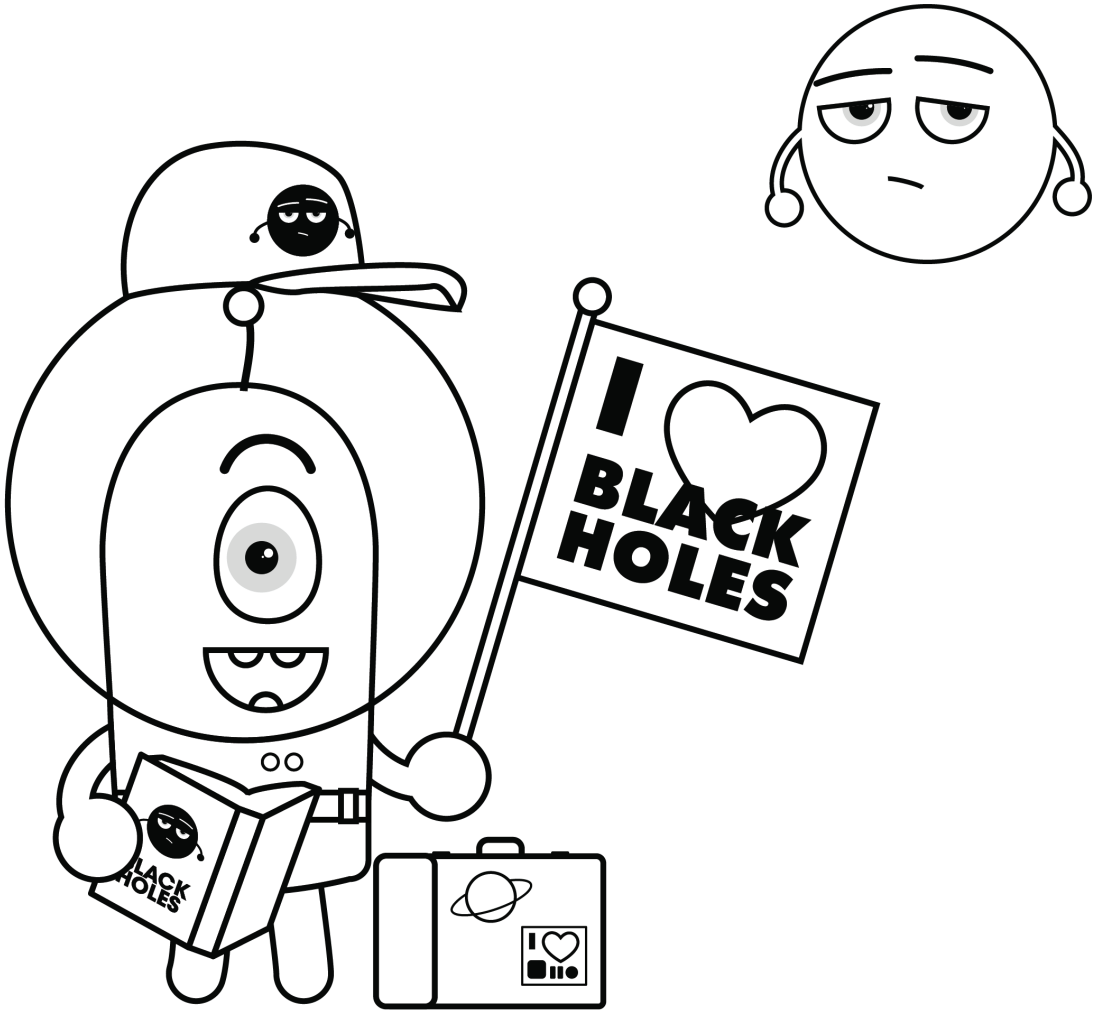
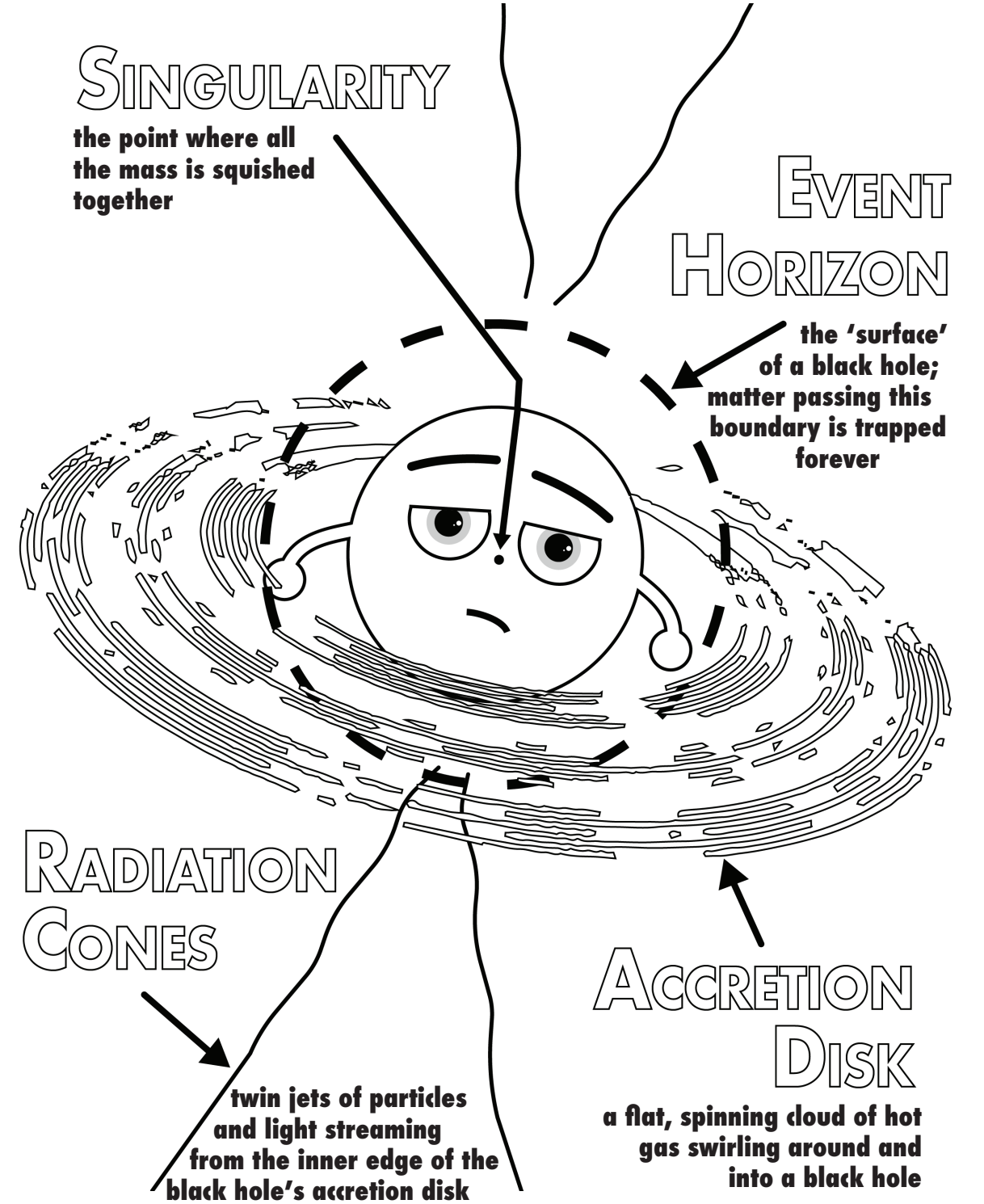
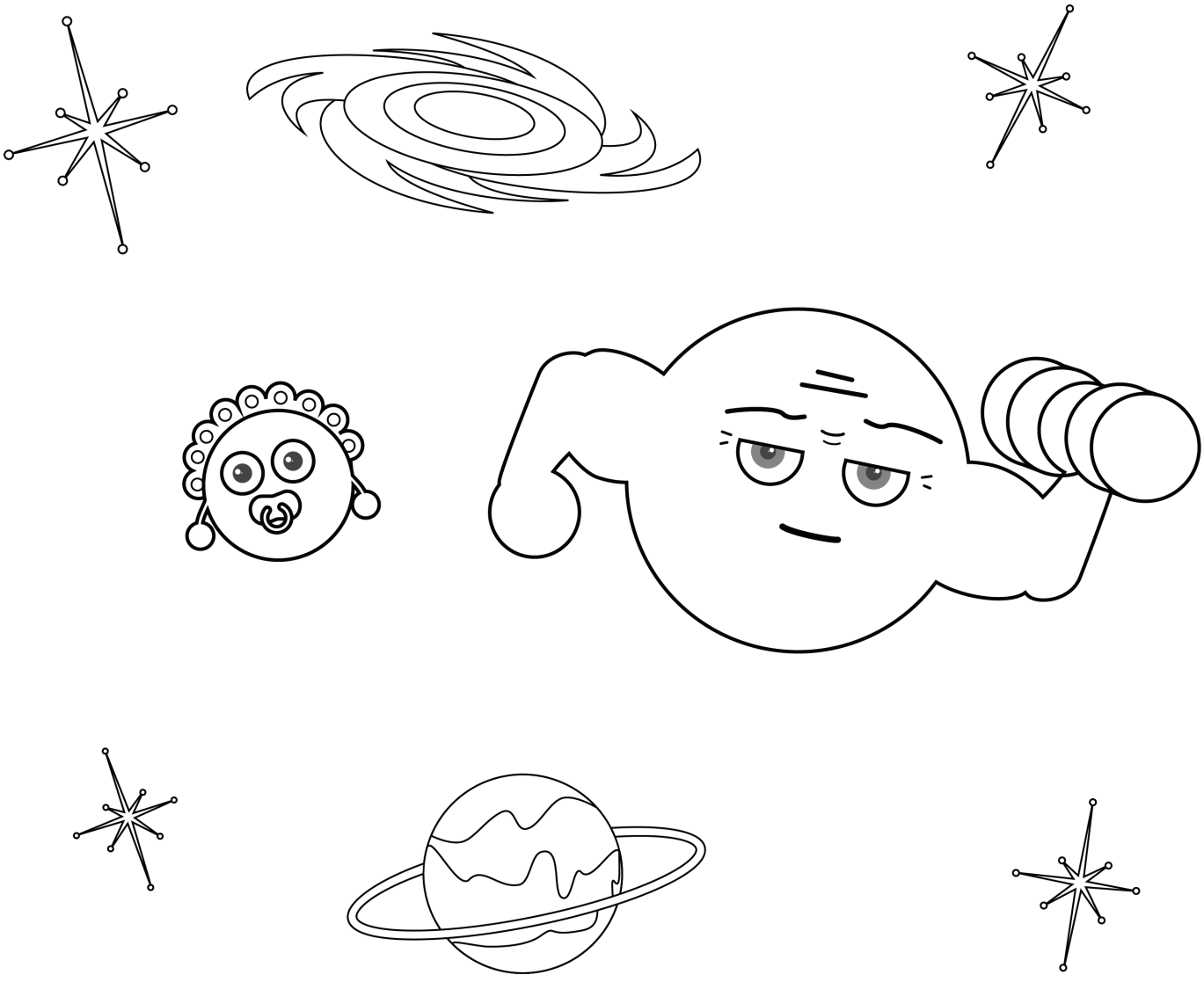
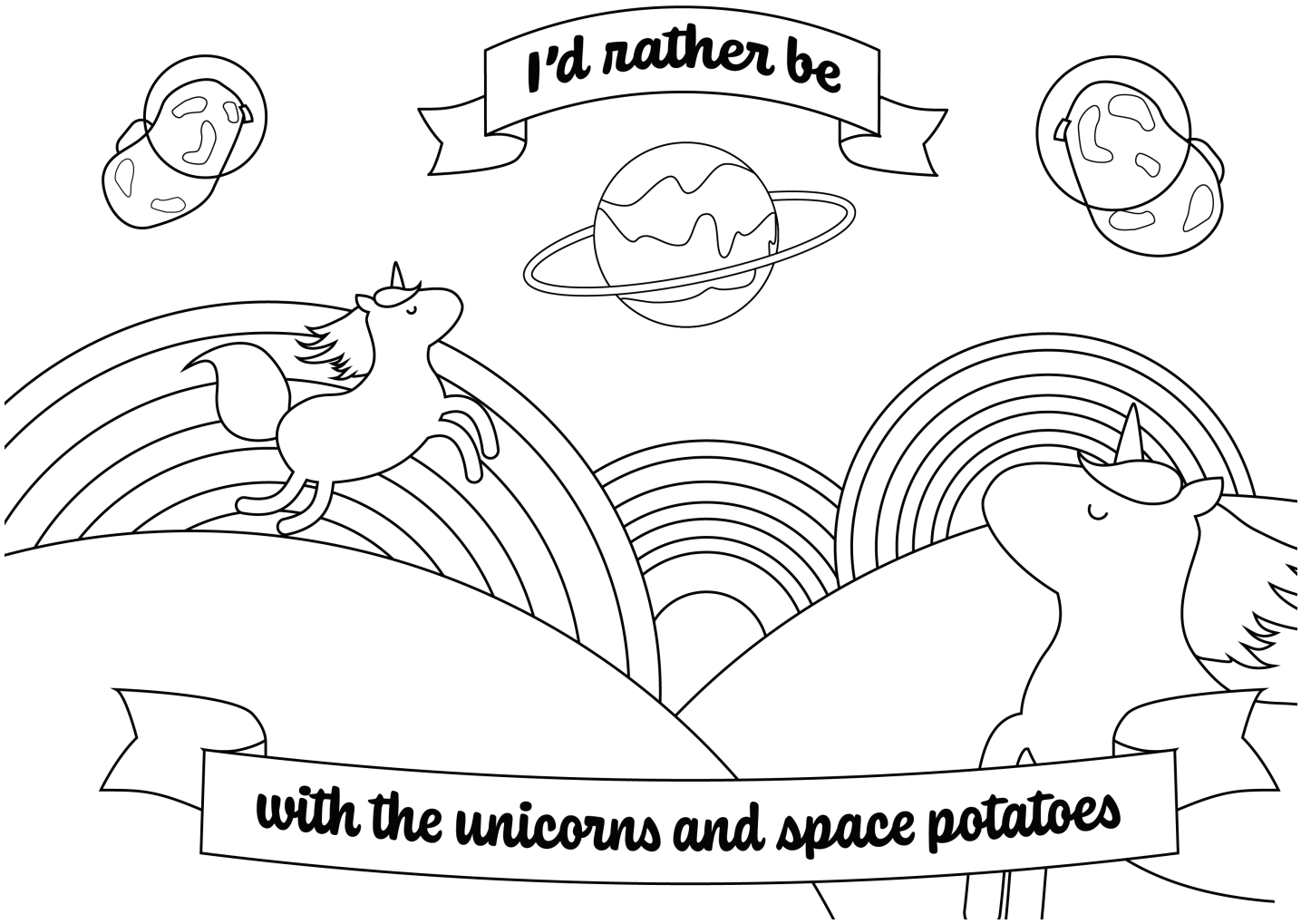


Black holes are weird! A black hole is an object in space with such strong gravity that not even light can escape it — and light is the fastest thing we know of.

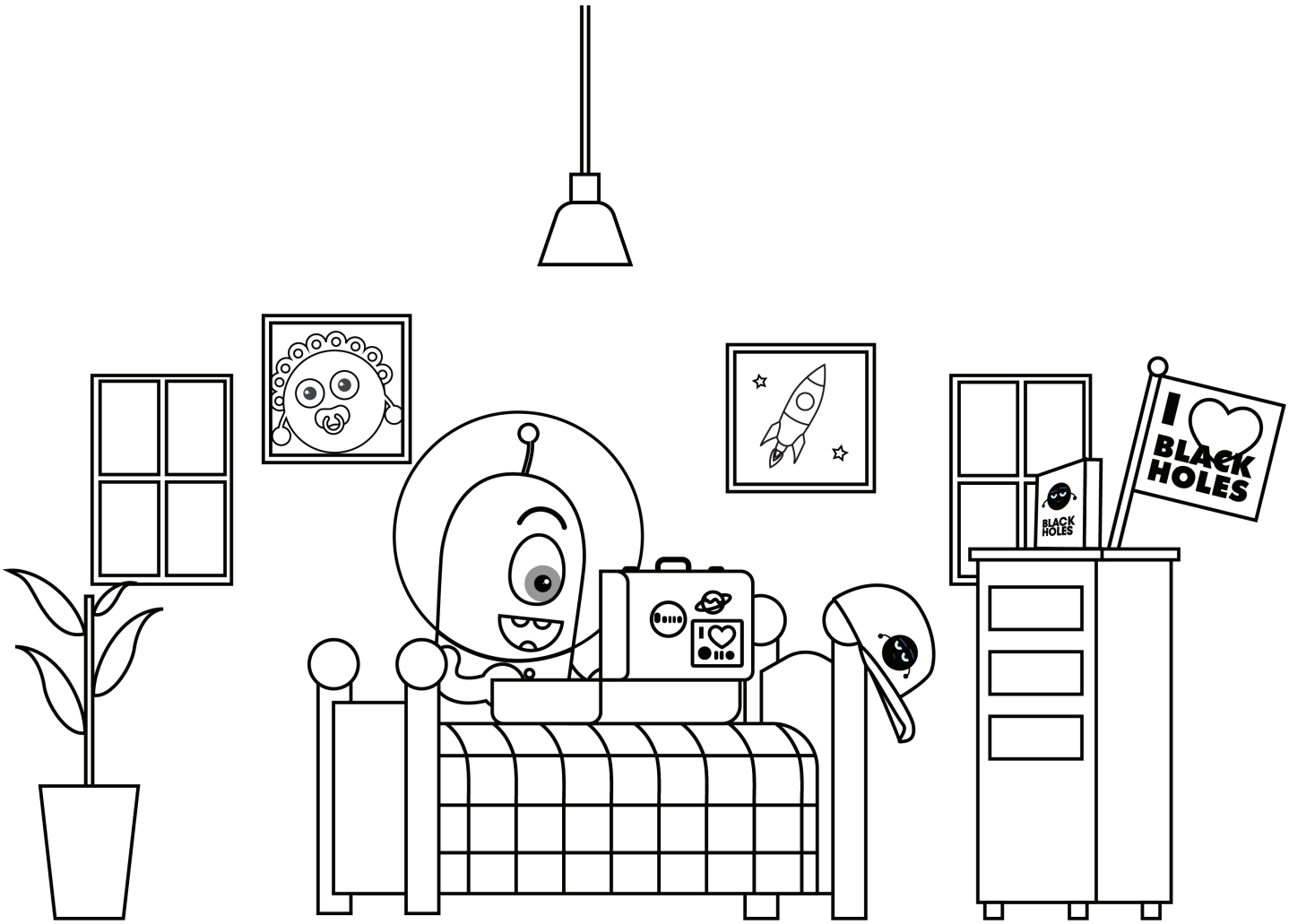

SINGULARITY
the point where all the mass is squished together
EVENT HORIZON
the 'surface' of a black hole; matter passing this boundary is trapped forever
RADIATION CONES
twin jets of particles and light streaming from the inner edge of the black hole's accretion disk
ACCRETION DISK
a flat, spinning cloud of hot gas swirling around and into a black hole



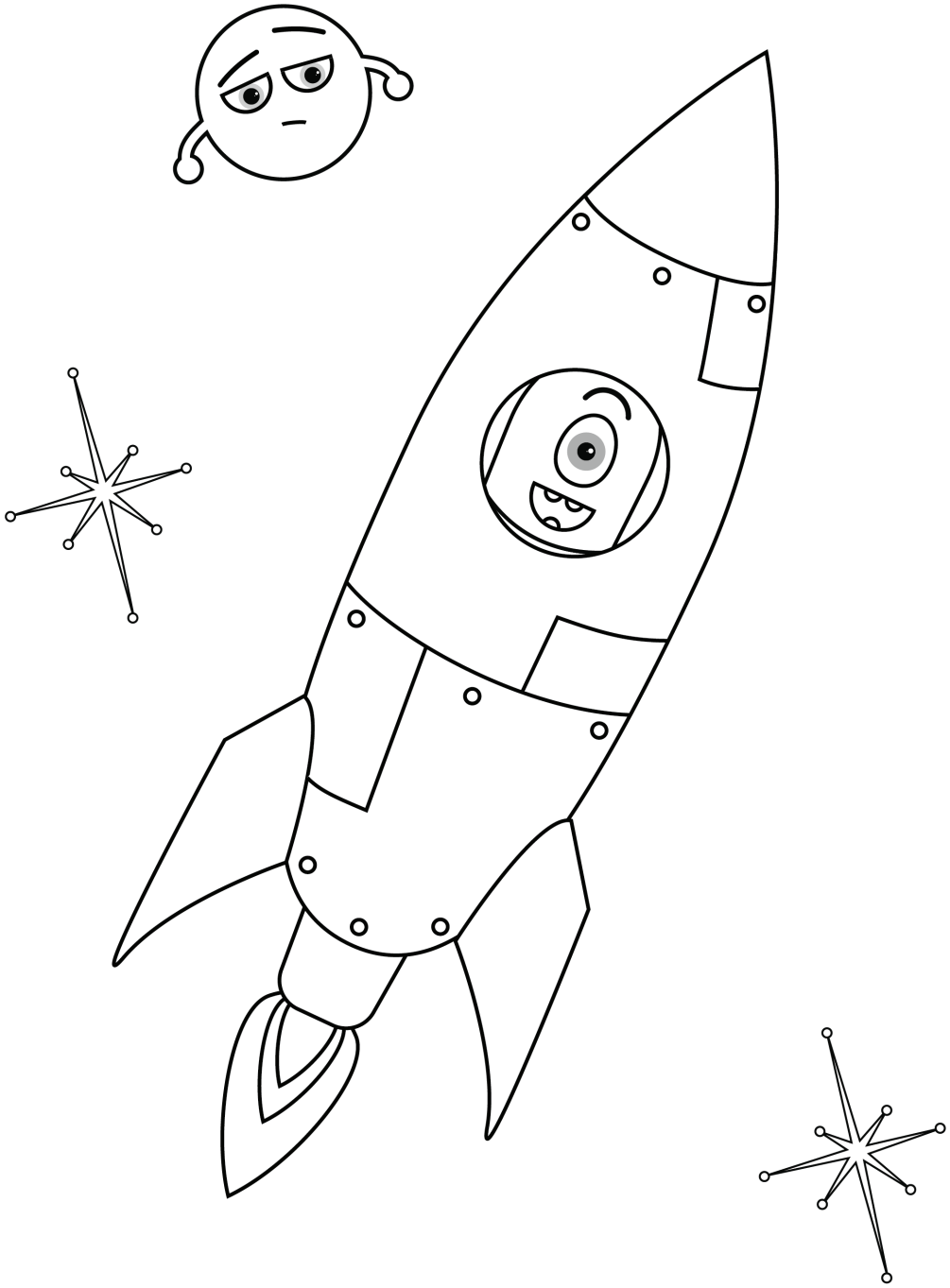
Black holes mainly come in two sizes. The stellar-mass ones have the mass of 5 to 100 Suns squished together. The supermassive ones have the mass of millions or billions of Suns.



Black holes are not portals to other dimensions, but it's fun to imagine!



Packing up for the voyage of a lifetime. Remember your toothbrush!



Enjoy the journey! The nearest known black hole is 1,000 light-years away, which would take over 13 billion years in today's fastest spacecraft.