



Jake Clark

Jake Clark is a PhD Candidate at the University of Southern Queensland.

Jake has been involved in helping NASA find planets amongst the stars with the telescopes based in regional Queensland. He has helped to discover almost ten planets beyond the stars (writing a number of research papers about his work).

Jake is now heading to Texas, to work at the Southwest Research Institute as part of his Fulbright Scholarship (Fulbright is somewhat a USA status 'equivalent' to a Rhodes scholarship)! There, he will be working on a new way to find rocky, and potentially habitable worlds. Jake has presented his research at MIT and Yale.

Jake's most significant discovery to date is being part of the discovery of Au Mic b. Au Mic b is one of the youngest planets ever to be discovered... NASA thought it was so cool that they even created a poster about it!



'Located less than 32 light-years from Earth, AU Microscopii is among the youngest planetary systems ever observed by astronomers, and its star throws vicious temper tantrums! You've heard of the "terrible twos"? Well, AU Mic is in the midst of its terrible 22 ... millions! This devilish young system holds planet AU Mic b captive inside a looming disk of ghostly dust and ceaselessly torments it with deadly blasts of X-rays and other radiation, thwarting any chance of life... as we know it! Beware! There is no escaping the stellar fury of this system. The monstrous flares of AU Mic will have you begging for eternal darkness.'