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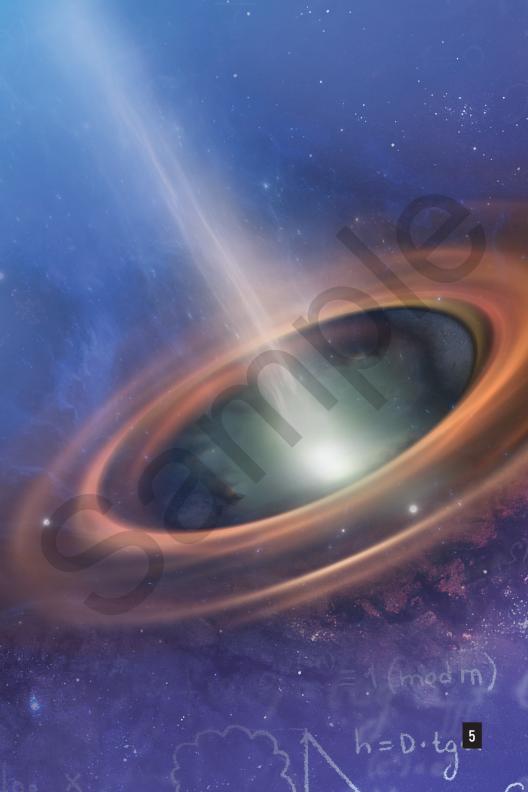
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CHAPTER 1

Science Superstar

He was as famous as a rock star. His book sold ten million copies. Shows like *The Simpsons* and *Star Trek* used him as a character.

His voice was electronic. A computer made it. Some thought it sounded funny. But it let him ask daring questions. What happened before the **universe** began? Can we go back in time? What is real, and what is imaginary?



The work he did was important. It helped solve some of science's greatest puzzles. **Black holes** were one focus. Time travel was another.

His name was Stephen Hawking. There was no question too big for him to ask. He believed all people deserve answers. The secrets of the universe are not just for scientists, he said. They are for everyone to know.





STEPHEN HAWKING

HIS LIFE AND LEGACY

Stephen Hawking was one of the brightest minds of our time. A physicist and a lifelong learner, Hawking overcame serious obstacles and made discoveries that changed the world of science. Through humor, he helped make science more accessible to millions of people. This is his story.



