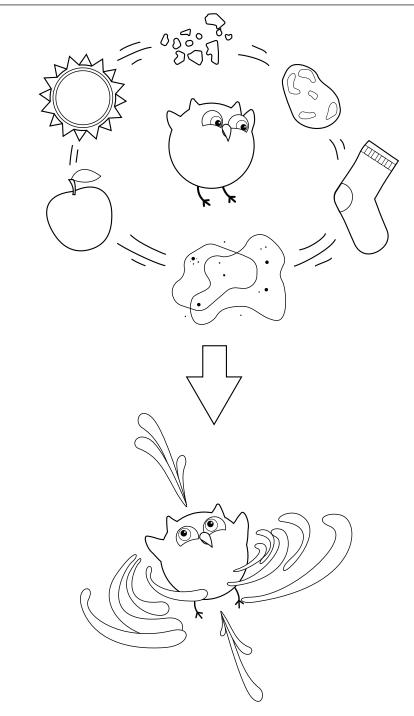
National Aeronautics and Space Administration





Black holes attract stuff that gets too close — like stars, gas, dust, and missing socks. Before getting pulled in, the material forms a disk around the black hole that can shine brightly.