

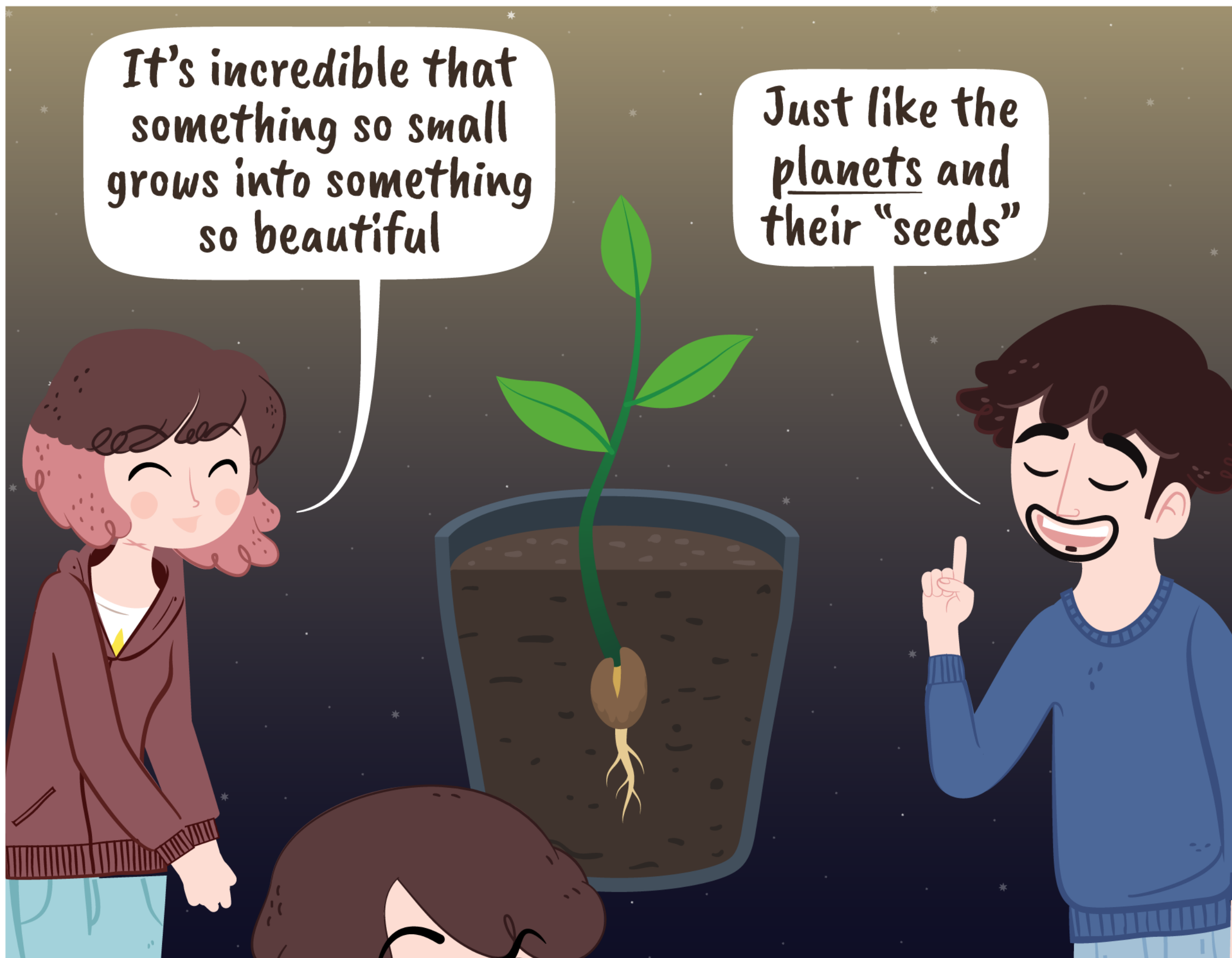
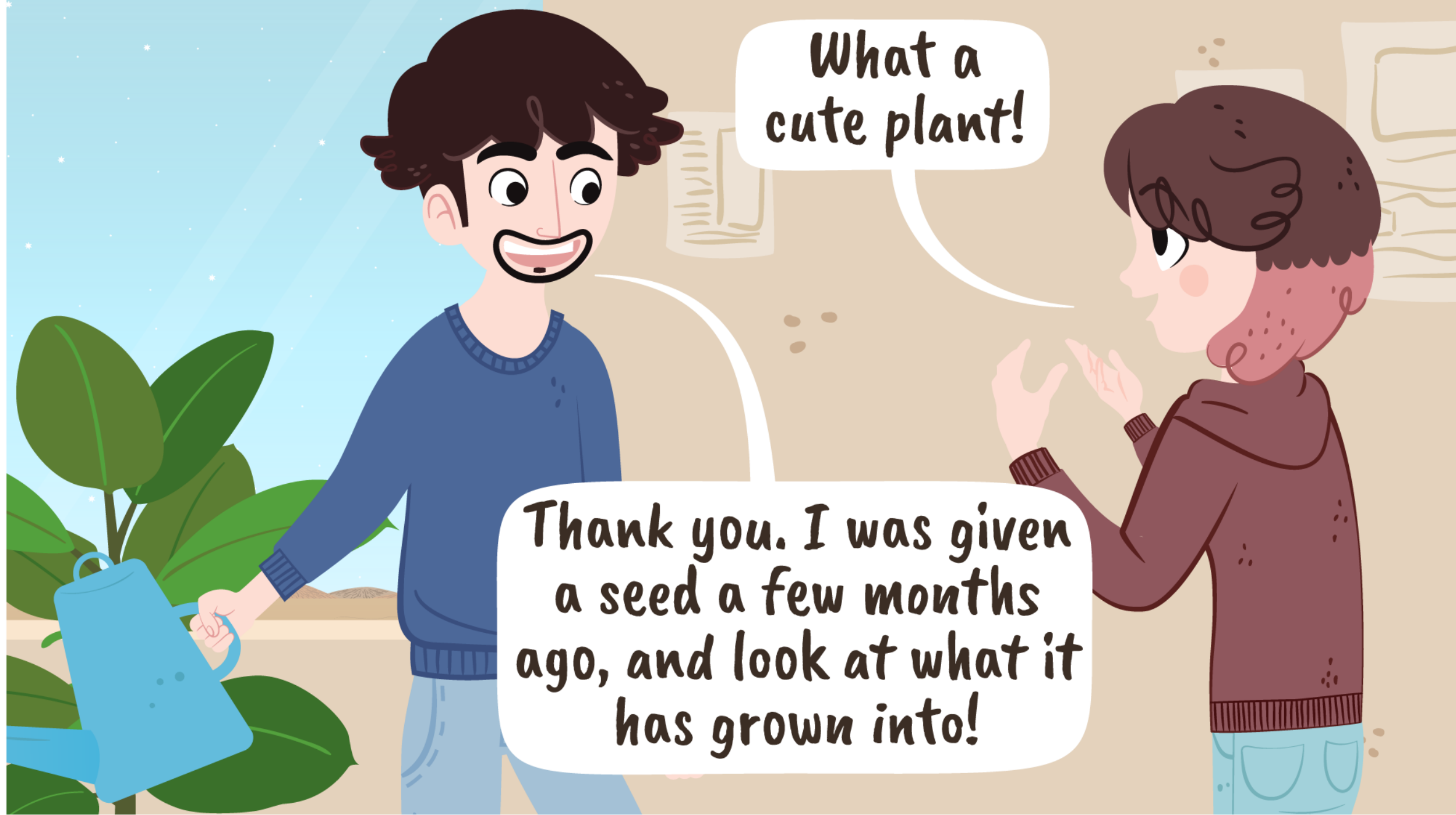
The ADVENTURES — OF — TALMA * ALMA

— TODAY —

"SPONGY SEEDS"



ALMA OPERATIONS
SUPPORT FACILITY
(OSF)





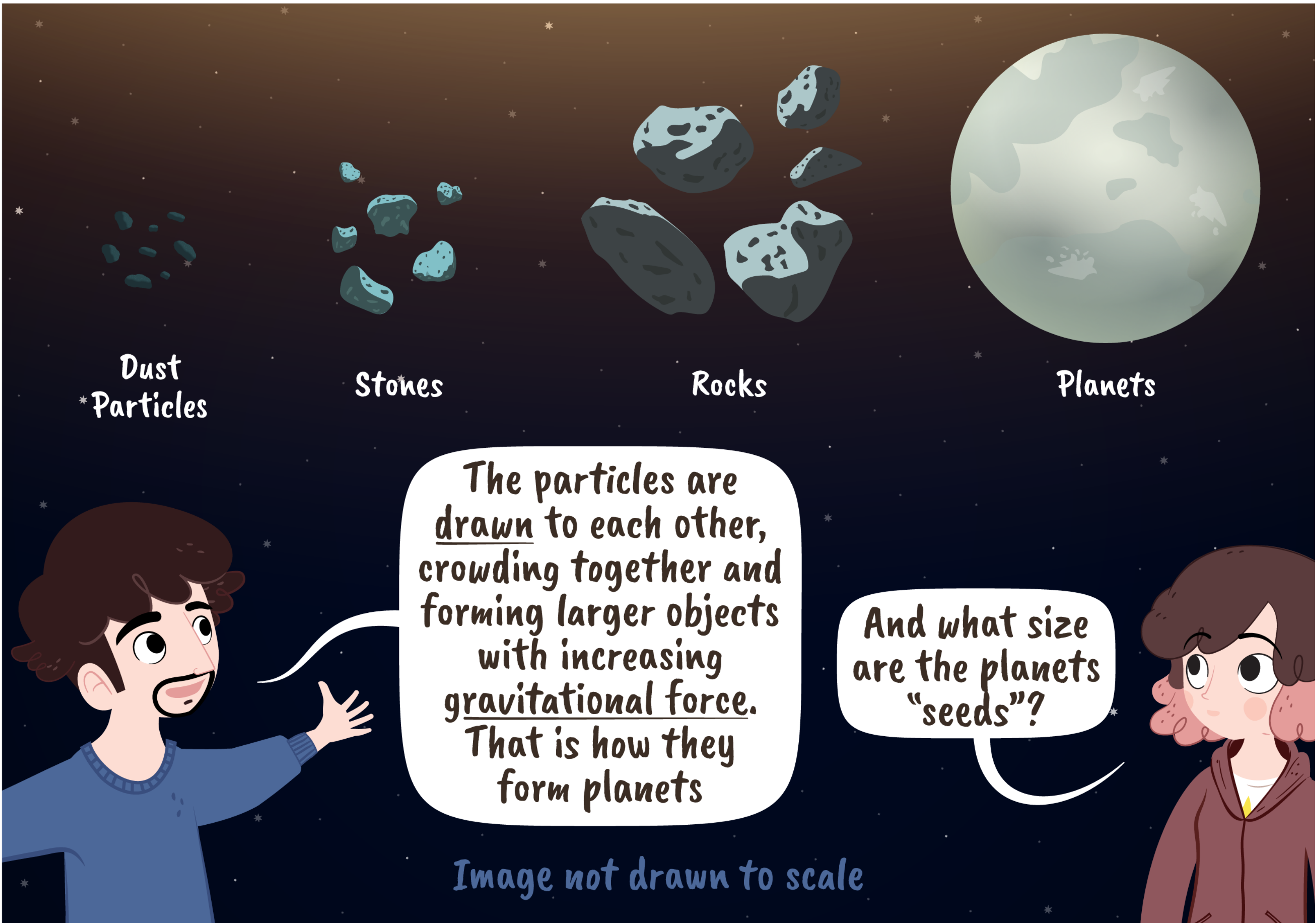
It's a name we give to the tiny dust particles that gather together to form planets

It's hard to imagine that dust forms planets



It is a process that takes billions of years

and occurs through the force of gravity



Dust
* Particles

Stones

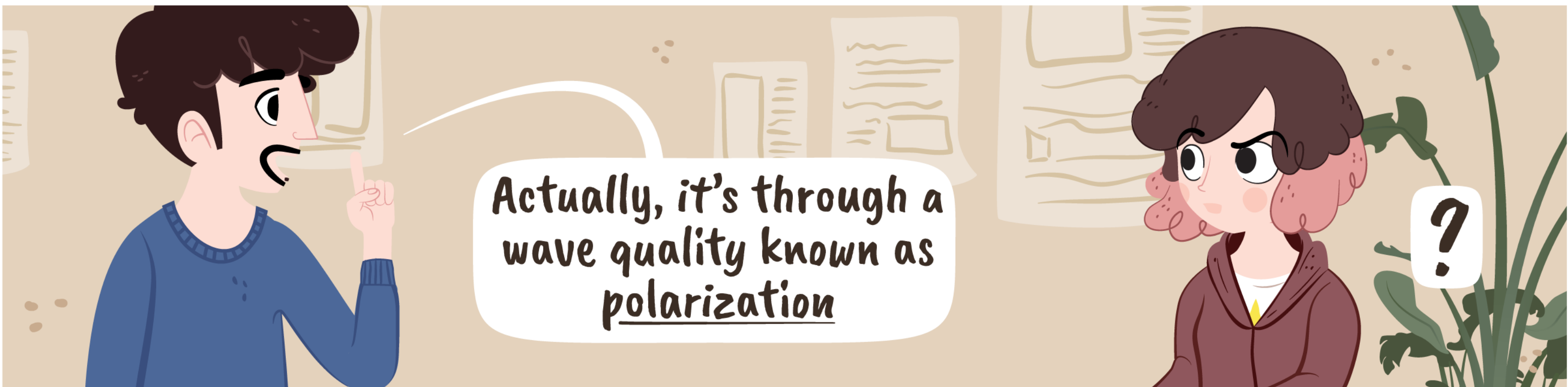
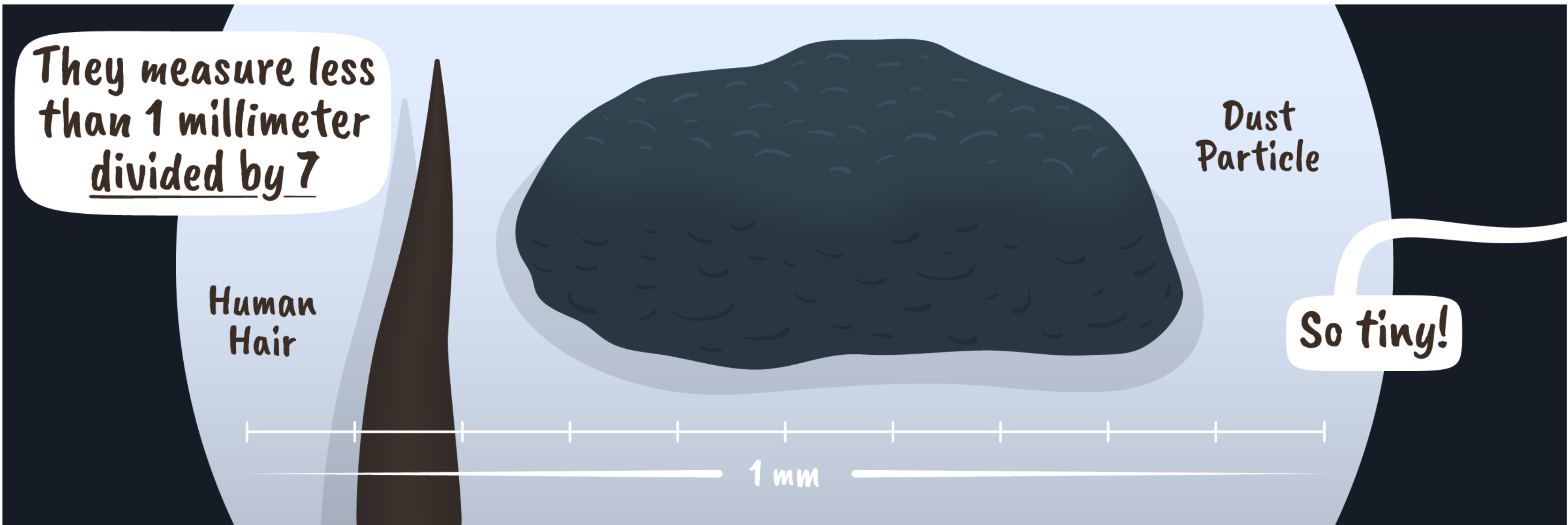
Rocks

Planets

The particles are drawn to each other, crowding together and forming larger objects with increasing gravitational force. That is how they form planets

And what size are the planets "seeds"?

Image not drawn to scale



The radio waves that generate dust particles vibrate in every direction

But when these waves bounce off other particles, they start vibrating in a single direction, and they increase their intensity and 'polarize'



Radio Wave Polarization



They get organized?



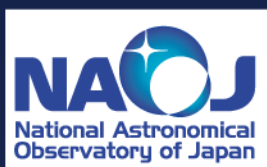
You said it!

And since ALMA is sensitive to polarized waves, this lets us determine the characteristics of the particles that waves have bounced off, such as size and texture. In this case, very small and spongy

Spongy seeds throughout the Universe!
How cute...



The End



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