

NAME: _____ PERIOD: _____ LAB NUMBER: _____

CLASSIFYING GALAXIES

OK, first off, what is a galaxy? _____

With your partner, take a look at the collection of images in front of you. Included are photographs of fifteen actual galaxies, taken by the Hubble Space Telescope. Examine the images carefully. In order to better understand galaxies, we must come up with a way grouping or organizing them based on shared characteristics. This process is called **classification**. With your partner, come up with a simple way of classifying these fifteen galaxies based on some characteristic you can directly observe from the images. Group them (by number) according to your classification scheme using the space provided below. Make sure and include a title for each group that clearly shows how they are classified.

1. Explain how you classified the galaxies.

2. Assuming you had additional information about each galaxy, what is another possible way they could be classified?

3. What is the name of our galaxy?

4. Our galaxy is classified as a(n) _____ galaxy.

5. Where within our galaxy are we (the Earth, the Sun, etc.) located?

