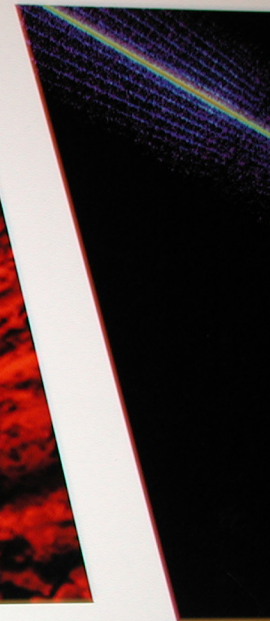


**Artist's Conception of a Black Hole**

As particles of matter are pulled toward the center of a black hole—shown here in an artist's conception—they become heated by friction and glow increasingly hotter until they cross the "event horizon" and disappear into the black maw. The spiraling particles form an "accretion disk." The black hole also emits a jet of radiation and particles.



Chandra Pinpoint  
NASA, Harvard  
Chandra X-ray  
A black hole,  
Earth-orbiting  
color spectrum  
inside white