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Send a text to ET's home

Let's hope aliens are text literate.

From today, Aussies will be able to send personal greetings into outer space as part of Science Week celebrations.

The messages will be beamed to Gliese 581d – an Earth-like planet located 20 light years away from us.

Federal Science Minister Kim Carr said the initiative was designed to stimulate conversation about extraterrestrial life.

Texters have until 5pm August 24 to get their message out.