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Launching in 2021, NASA's Lucy Mission will fly by seven different Trojan asteroids

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orbiting the same distance from the Sun as Jupiter

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The mission has four main science objectives:

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To study surface geology by mapping craters and other land forms

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to determine the age and nature of exterior features;

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To map the color and mineral composition of the asteroids' surfaces;

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To determine what's beneath the surface as well as each asteroid's mass and density;

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And finally, Lucy will look for and study any satellites and rings around the asteroids.

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Several instruments are being built for the mission:

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L'TES – a thermal emission spectrometer;

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L'LORRI – a long-range high-resolution imager;

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and L'Ralph – a color imager and infrared spectrometer.

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Twin navigation cameras and a high gain antenna

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will also help investigate these Trojan asteroids,

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which are remnants of the same primordial material that formed the outer planets,

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and have so far only been studied with Earth-bound telescopes.

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So, as Lucy achieves its science objectives,