

Stay home ET. Stephen Hawking: Aliens may pose risks

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This April 5, 2010 file photo shows astrophysicist Stephen Hawking of England presenting a lecture titled, "Out of a Black Hole" at Texas A&M in College Station, Texas. Hawking says aliens are out there, but it could be too dangerous for humans to interact with extraterrestrial life. The Discovery Channel said Sunday, April 25, 2010 it will broadcast "Stephen Hawking's Universe" in Britain next month. (AP Photo/Dave Einsel)

(AP) -- British astrophysicist Stephen Hawking says aliens are out there, but it could be too dangerous for humans to interact with extraterrestrial life.

Hawking claims in a new documentary that intelligent alien lifeforms

almost certainly exist, but warns that communicating with them could be "too risky."

The 68-year-old scientist says a visit by extraterrestrials to Earth would be like Christopher Columbus arriving in the Americas, "which didn't turn out very well for the Native Americans."

He speculates most [extraterrestrial life](#) will be similar to [microbes](#), or small animals - but adds advanced lifeforms may be "nomads, looking to conquer and colonize."

The Discovery Channel said Sunday it will broadcast "Stephen Hawking's [Universe](#)" in Britain next month.

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