

Asteroid Belts, Meteorites & Comets

Asteroid Belts:

Asteroids are small celestial objects made of _____ or _____. They orbit the sun, but like Pluto are too small to be called planets.

Most asteroids are found in a place called the "Asteroid Belt".

The asteroid belt is between the orbits of _____ & _____.

Meteoroids:

Meteoroids are pieces of _____ or _____ that are smaller than asteroids.

Sometimes they get pulled to earth by earth's _____, but are burnt up by the friction. Which creates the line of light in the sky. Like a shooting star.

Meteoroids can create _____ on the earth's surface. If they hit the earth.

Meteor Showers and Smaller members of the Solar system.

There are billions of smaller members of our solar system, they are usually made up of rock and metal, even ice.

Each night on average there is a _____ in the sky, every 15 minutes.

They are caused by when the cloud particles are left behind by comets when they enter the atmosphere of a planet.

Comets:

Comets are large chunks of _____ that orbit the earth.

There are two kinds of comets: _____ & _____ period comets.

A short period comet is from the place just beyond the orbit of Neptune and travels around the sun in less than 200 years.

A long period comet is farther away than Pluto and takes more than 200 years to orbit the sun. When comets get close to the sun they begin to **sublimate**, (changing state)

Comet Facts:

- If a comet goes too close to another planet it can be pulled in by the planets _____.
- Some planets take longer than others to orbit around the sun.
- Halley's comet is the most common _____ comet.