# Comets, Asteroids, and Meteors

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## Student Information:

Complete this worksheet.

## Understanding Main Ideas:

Complete the following table.

| Object | Description | Location/Movement |
|---|---|---|
| Asteroid | | |
| Comet | | |
| Meteoroid | | |

*Answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper.*

1. Explain what happens to a meteoroid in order for it to become a meteorite.
2. Describe these parts of a comet: head, nucleus, coma, tail.
3. How can you tell a meteor from a comet?

## Building Vocabulary:

From the list below, choose the term that best completes each sentence.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| asteroid | asteroid belt | comet |
| meteor | meteoroid | meteorite |

4. When a meteoroid enters Earth's atmosphere, friction causes it to burn up and produce a streak of light called a(n). _____
5. A chunk of ice and dust whose orbit is usually a long narrow ellipse is a(n). _____
6. If a meteoroid hits Earth's surface, it is called a(n). _____
7. An object that revolves around the sun, but is too small to be considered a planet, is a(n). _____
8. A chunk of rock or dust in space that usually comes from a comet or an asteroid is called a(n). _____
9. The region of the solar system between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter is known as the _____.