

Rocks in Space



Comets, asteroids, and meteoroids are the most common rocks in space. Meteoroids sometimes fly into earth's atmosphere. But a meteoroid has a different name when it enters a planet's atmosphere, and if it hits a planet's surface. Whether you call the rock a meteoroid, meteor, or meteorite depends on where the rock is.

If a small rock is in outer space then it's called a meteoroid.

If the meteoroid flies into a planet's atmosphere then it's called a

C) snowflake

A) comet B) meteor

If that rock hits the planet's surface then it's called a

A) meteorite

B) moon

C) asteroid

Often meteoroids are flying at 160,000 miles per hour. That's fast. If the meteoroid flies to close to a planet' it will rub against the atmosphere, become hotter, and catch on fire.

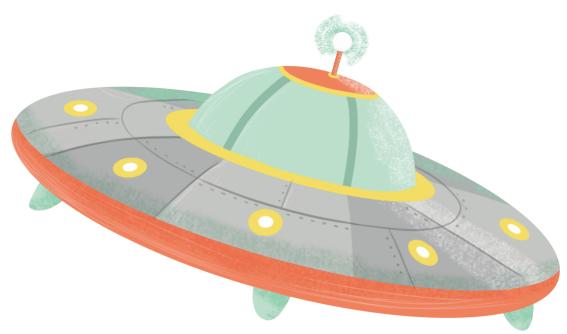
When two items rub against each other and the rubbing creates heat it's called

A) supernova

B) furnace

C) friction

As a rock flies through the Earth's atmosphere we can see it catch on fire. It looks like a shooting star. But is it really a star?



Write a Letter

Are space aliens real? The SETI Institute (Search for Extra Terrestrial Intelligence) is looking for proof of aliens. But so far, SETI hasn't found proof.

Write a letter to Zar and tell him something about planet Earth, or outer space. You can also ask him a question about his planet.

Teachers, in order to receive a response from Zar send the letters to dino@DinoODell.com or 5904 El Monte St, Fairway, KS 66205.
Please include the school name, teacher's name, grade level, and an email address.

