



# COMETS, METEORS, AND ASTEROIDS QUIZ

If you get stuck, all the information you need to answer the questions is in your *Zoom Into Space Comets, Meteors, and Asteroids* book. Enjoy the quiz!

- 1: What is a meteor?**  
 a) A star moving quickly across the sky  
 b) A piece of space rock burning up in Earth's atmosphere  
 c) A piece of the Sun heading for Earth
- 2: What is an asteroid?**  
 a) A giant snowball in space  
 b) A miniature star  
 c) A large rock that is orbiting the Sun
- 3: What are most asteroids shaped like?**  
 a) Bananas  
 b) Starfish  
 c) Lumpy potatoes
- 4: What is the asteroid belt?**  
 a) A ring of asteroids orbiting the Sun  
 b) A ring of asteroids orbiting Earth  
 c) An area in space where comets come from
- 5: Where is the asteroid belt?**  
 a) Between Mercury and the Sun  
 b) Between Mars and Jupiter  
 c) Between Uranus and Neptune
- 6: What is Vesta?**  
 a) A comet  
 b) A dwarf planet  
 c) An asteroid
- 7: Which of these space objects is the largest asteroid in the solar system?**  
 a) Vesta  
 b) Pluto  
 c) Ceres
- 8: Which of these statements is false?**  
 a) Ceres is both a dwarf planet and an asteroid.  
 b) Ceres is almost as wide as Texas.  
 c) Ceres is the same size as Earth.
- 9: What is a space object called when it lands on Earth?**  
 a) A meteoroid  
 b) A meteorite  
 c) A meteor
- 10: How big is the Hoba meteorite?**  
 a) As big as a car  
 b) As wide as Texas  
 c) As big as a basketball
- 11: Which statement is true?**  
 a) Pieces of the asteroid Vesta have landed on Earth.  
 b) Meteorites are large balls of ice mixed with rocks and dust.  
 c) Meteorites break off of mountains on Earth.
- 12: Which statement is false?**  
 a) Ceres and Vesta are both in the asteroid belt.  
 b) Pluto is in the asteroid belt.  
 c) The asteroid belt contains millions of asteroids.
- 13: What do scientists think may have killed the dinosaurs?**  
 a) The impact of a huge space object with Earth  
 b) The fiery tail of a comet passing near Earth  
 c) Fright, caused by seeing meteors in the sky
- 14: Which statement is true?**  
 a) Asteroids never leave the asteroid belt.  
 b) Asteroids can be as small as cars or larger than mountains.  
 c) Asteroids that leave the asteroid belt become dwarf planets.
- 15: What are comets?**  
 a) Shooting stars  
 b) Large balls of ice mixed with rocks and dust  
 c) The smallest dwarf planets
- 16: Which statement is false?**  
 a) Most comets travel in egg-shaped orbits around the Sun.  
 b) The head of a comet can be the size of a small town.  
 c) Most comets travel around the Sun in perfect circles.
- 17: What happens to a comet as it gets close to the Sun?**  
 a) It forms long tails made of gas and dust.  
 b) It melts and disappears.  
 c) It explodes.
- 18: How long is a comet's tail?**  
 a) Hundreds of miles long  
 b) Thousands of miles long  
 c) Millions of miles long
- 19: Which statement is true?**  
 a) Comets are colder the farther they get from the Sun.  
 b) Comets are hotter the farther they get from the Sun.  
 c) Comets become asteroids when they are far from the Sun.
- 20: What did the space probe Rosetta do?**  
 a) It landed on an asteroid.  
 b) It chased a meteorite.  
 c) It studied and landed on a comet.

1: b 2: c 3: c 4: a 5: b 6: c 7: c 8: c 9: b 10: a 11: a 12: b 13: a 14: b 15: b 16: c 17: a 18: c 19: a 20: c

**ANSWERS**