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Know Your Space Rocks

There are many different names for space rocks, depending on their size and where they are.

**Asteroids**
Large space rocks that orbit the sun. Many are found in the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter.

**Comets**
Large space rocks in our solar system that are made from ice and dust. As they pass close to the sun, they warm up and release gas, which gives them bright tails.

**Meteoroids**
Space rocks that are smaller than asteroids and that stay in space, out of Earth’s atmosphere.

**Meteorites**
Space rocks that land on Earth after traveling through the atmosphere without burning up entirely.

**Meteors**
Space rocks that move into Earth’s atmosphere, where they burn up and cause a quick streak of light (a falling star).