

# Explore Space Rocks!

## Websites

<http://www.lpi.usra.edu/education/skytellers/intro.shtml> - The SkyTellers Program uses Native American stories, coupled with science stories, to introduce children to science concepts. Many meteoroid activities can be found at: <http://www.lpi.usra.edu/education/skytellers/meteors/>.

<http://starchild.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/StarChild/teachers/asteroids.html> - Comets, asteroids and meteoroids – this activity website may be used to test students understanding and learning about space science topics after the activity sections have been completed. This is a good site for teachers and 'homeschoolers'. Comes with all of the printable materials needed.

[http://www.windows.ucar.edu/tour/link=/our\\_solar\\_system/solar\\_system.html](http://www.windows.ucar.edu/tour/link=/our_solar_system/solar_system.html) - Good site for interactive comet animation and comet coloring book material. Information on comet news and comet missions. Also, general information on the solar system, general astronomy, space missions, and space weather.

<http://www.adlerplanetarium.org/education/activities/read/sbsg/sky1.shtml> - Something fell from the sky! – A read only interactive site for children. Utilizing simple characters the site reveals information about comets and meteors via a story line. The site also contains family activities to help introduce basic science concepts to children ages 2-4.

<http://www.thursdaysclassroom.com/31jul01/teacher4.html> - A series of comet and meteor related activities aimed at children 5-8. Lesson plans, activity (worksheets for the most part) sheets, answer keys, stories, coloring books, 'main idea' activities are all provided for downloading. This site is very detailed and of good quality but not really hands-on in nature.

Check out some asteroid missions:

NEAR – Near Earth Asteroid Rendezvous: Images and touch-down on Asteroid Eros

<http://near.jhuapl.edu/>

DAWN: Mission to Ceres and Vesta

<http://dawn.jpl.nasa.gov/>

Near Earth Object Program: Monitoring space for inbound asteroids!

<http://neo.jpl.nasa.gov/>

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## Books

Asteroids, Comets, and Meteors. Gregory Vogt, Millbrook Press, 1996, ISBN 1562946013.

Vogt offers children ages 4–8 a thorough introduction to the origins and composition of asteroids, comets, and meteors and their “impact” on our planet’s history.

The Magic School Bus Out of This World: A Book About Space Rocks. Joanna Cole, Scholastic, Inc, 1996, ISBN 0590921568.

In this fictional account, a teacher and her students travel through space in search of “space rocks.” They encounter comets, meteors, asteroids and more! Fun and instructional for children ages 5–10.

Meteor! Patricia Polacco, Puffin, 1996, ISBN 0698114108.

A humorous, factual account of a meteorite landing “smack-dab in the middle of a yard” in Union City, Michigan. Even though it is written for children, Polacco’s personal style make it an enjoyable read for all ages.

Comets, Meteors, and Asteroids. Seymour Simon, Harper Trophy, 1998, ISBN 0688158439.

Targeted to ages 8–10, Simon’s book presents basic information about meteors, including the difference between meteoroids, meteors, and meteorites. Written in a plain language with large print, the book uses numerous supportive illustrations.