

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## How Do Meteors Differ From Meteoroids, Meteorites, And An Asteroid?

### Short Answer Key

1. A meteoroid enters Earth's atmosphere and, due to friction and heat, creates a streak of light known as a meteor.
2. Whether a meteoroid becomes a meteor or a meteorite depends on whether it survives its passage through Earth's atmosphere and reaches the planet's surface.
3. Scientists use meteorites to learn about the early solar system by analyzing their composition, age, and origin, which provides insights into the conditions and building blocks of the solar system.
4. Answers will vary, but students may mention the asteroid Vesta, its rocky composition, and its location in the asteroid belt.
5. A meteor shower is a celestial event where multiple meteors can be seen in a single night. They occur when Earth's orbit intersects with comet debris.

