

Name _____

The Silent Journey: Can You Hear Meteors as They Pass Through the Atmosphere?

Short Answer

1. Explain what happens to a meteoroid as it enters Earth's atmosphere and encounters atmospheric drag.
2. Why is the speed of sound in Earth's atmosphere relevant when considering whether we can hear meteors?
3. If a meteoroid could somehow produce sound, why would it still remain inaudible to us on the ground?
4. Discuss the factors that determine whether a meteoroid will create a sonic boom.
5. Can other space objects, such as spacecraft, produce sound in space? Explain your answer.

