

Name _____

Meteor Size Matters: How Big Can Meteors Get?

Short Answer Key

1. Meteoroids are fragments of celestial bodies, such as comets, asteroids, or even pieces of the Moon or Mars. They originate from various sources in space.
2. The composition of a meteoroid influences the brightness of the meteor it creates because denser materials, like metal, produce brighter meteors even if they are smaller in size.
3. Fireballs are exceptionally bright and may include vivid colors. They are more spectacular than typical shooting stars due to their brightness and extended displays.
4. Extremely massive meteoroids do not entirely burn up in Earth's atmosphere, so they can reach Earth's surface as meteorites.
5. Answers may vary.

