



Kid Scoop

.com

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE



Find Kid Scoop on Facebook



© 2019 by Vicki Whiting, Editor Jeff Schinkel, Graphics Vol. 35, No. 30

FIREWORKS IN THE SKY

On a clear night, the sky is filled with sparking lights. Some seem to stay still while others shoot across the sky. **Asteroids** and **meteors** are called **shooting stars** as they move quickly across the sky. **Comets** often look like fuzzy stars and you have to watch night after night to see their movement.

A comet knocked some of the words out of this article. Can you replace them?

A Visit to a Comet

In 2004, the European Space Agency sent a small _____ to catch up with and orbit the comet known as Comet 67P.

It took 10 years to _____ the comet and then the spacecraft spent two years _____ it, collecting information and sending it back to _____ on Earth.

This spacecraft has helped scientists better _____ the make-up of comets.

SPACECRAFT UNDERSTAND ORBITING REACH SCIENTISTS

20 - 7

8 + 8

25 - 10

21 - 7

Do the math to label the parts of a comet.

16 = gas tail 15 = nucleus 14 = dust tail 13 = coma

What is a comet?

A comet is a chunk of ice, rock, and gas flying through space. When they get close to the sun, they heat up. We can see their glow and long tails.

Halley's Comet

Halley's Comet passes around earth about every 75 years. The last time it passed us was in 1986. Scientists think it will pass by Earth again in the year $1986 + 75 =$ _____.



This is the Comet Hale-Bopp. It passed through our galaxy in 1997. Scientists estimate that it won't pass by again until the year 4380!

Photo: nasa.gov

Kid Scoop Together Book Scoop

Use the Kid Scoop Secret Decoder Ring to discover the name of this book by Chris Van Dusen, which is available at the library.



Randy loves two things: science and baseball. When it comes to the solar system, the constellations, and all things robot, he is a genius. But on the baseball diamond? Not so much. He tries but whiffs every time. Then one night, Randy sees something shocking through his Space Boy telescope: it's a fireball, and it's headed right for his town! He does the math, summons all of his science smarts, and devises a plan that will save the day in a spectacular way.

To discover the name of this book, find the letter on the outer ring, then replace it with the letter below it on the inner ring.

G P F W N
,
G B V T N K
G T P V V N
Y B A C B D

Make a Comet on a Stick

In this activity from the NASA Space Place website, you'll make your own comet that can fly around the room! You'll need:

- chopsticks or a popsicle stick
- 3 different ribbons (gold, silver, red)
- scissors and aluminum foil



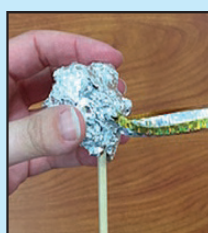
Cut five pieces of ribbon: two long pieces, two medium-size pieces, and one short red piece.



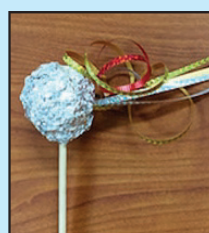
Tie your ribbons around the end of your chopsticks or popsicle stick.



Cut three pieces of tin foil so they're roughly square shaped. Gather the foil around the end of the stick.



Form the foil into a ball while keeping the ribbon tail off to the side. Repeat with two more sheets of foil.



Hold your comet on a stick and fly it around the room! For more ideas, visit the NASA Space Place online.

Extra! Extra! Space Search

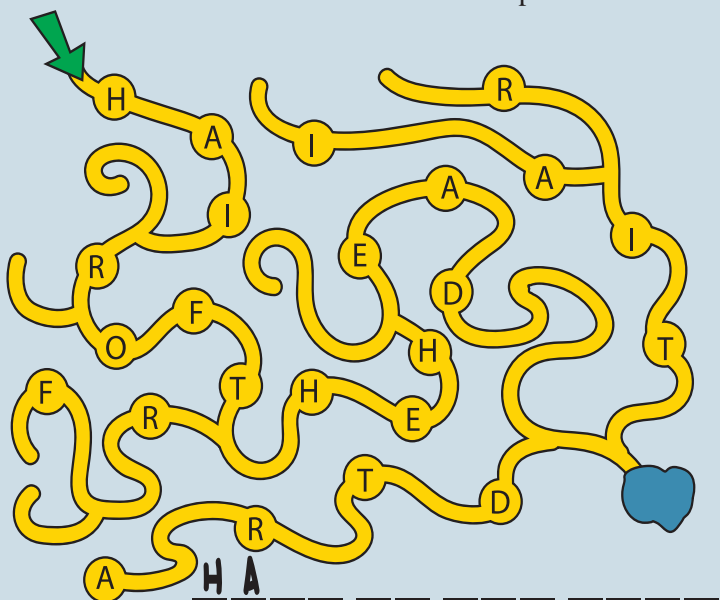
Look through the newspaper to find:

- ☐ A word that describes a comet
- ☐ A word with three syllables
- ☐ A number larger than 1,000
- ☐ Two words that rhyme

Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

The word comet came from the Greek word *kometes*. What does it mean? The letters on the correct comet tail spell the answer.



Double Double Word Search

ASTEROIDS
METEORS
NUCLEUS
COMETS
ORBIT
WATCH
HALLEY
TAILS
SPACE
ROCK
DUST
COMA
HEAT
ICE
GAS

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

O U T E H R S H T A
P A C E M Y E C S F
C S A G E I S T U R
O T E L T U E A D E
M W A A E R O W C C
E H I L O R B I T A
T L C I R C O M A P
S U D R S K S C I S
N S H A L L E Y K Y

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

Comets Don't Last Forever

Every time Halley's comet travels around the sun, it loses 250 million tons of ice and dust! Scientists think it only has about 2,200 more trips around the sun before it vanishes in about 170,000 years.



Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **VANISH**

The verb **vanish** means to disappear.

The magician made the flowers **vanish** by saying the magic words.

Try to use the word **vanish** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Long Tail Articles

Measure how many column inches of one article are on the front page. Measure how many column inches of space are used for a second front page article. Why was one article given more space than the other?

Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate info.



Why did the planets get the giggles?

ANSWER: They had read a funny comet book.

Write On!

Ode to the Sun

Write a poem about the sun.



The 2019 Summer Reading Series
Is proudly brought to you by these sponsors

