

Meteor

Fun fact for kids



Meteors are often called "shooting stars" even though they are not stars.



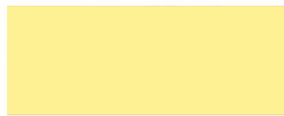
They are tiny pieces of rock or dust that burn up in Earth's atmosphere.



Meteors are visible as bright streaks of light in the night sky.



If a meteor reaches the ground, it's called a meteorite.



Most meteors are smaller than a grain of sand.



Meteor showers happen when Earth passes through the debris left by comets.



Meteors can travel up to 160,000 miles per hour.



The largest meteorite found on Earth is the Hoba meteorite in Namibia.



Fireballs are extremely bright meteors.



Some meteorites are made of metal, mostly iron and nickel.



The Perseids and Geminids are two of the most famous meteor showers.



Meteors are important to scientists because they can tell us about the early solar system.