



Comets are huge chunks of ice, dust and gas. Scientists study them because these "dirty snowballs" might be able to tell us about the origins of our solar system.

Students "cook" them up and find answers to questions like what they are made up of? Are they periodic? They explore where do comets come from and the reason behind it. They discuss which space missions have been sent to study them and if they can be a threat to mankind or not.

# CHALLENGE YOURSELF

Q. Identify the space rocks by reading about them. Write their names in the spaces provided.

Comet, Meteoroids, Meteor Showers, Dwarf Planets, Meteorites, Asteroids



*Dwarf Planet*

*Pluto came under this category after it lost its status of being called as a planet.*



*Meteor Showers*

*An event in which beautiful streaks of light appear to radiate from one point in the night sky at a particular date, each year.*



*Meteoroids*

*These are fragments or debris from an asteroid or comet orbiting the Sun.*



*Meteorites*

*Pieces of space rocks that land on the Earth after passing through the atmosphere.*



*Comet*

*When these snowballs come close to the Sun, they have a glowing head and a long tail.*



*Asteroids*

*Irregular and airless rocks that orbit the Sun. They generally lie between Mars and Jupiter.*