

Meteoroids, Meteors, and Meteorites

What is a shooting star?

How many tons of extraterrestrial material enter our atmosphere daily?
How does that matter arrive?

Nowadays, how do we define *planet*? How long have the planets in our solar system existed? How did they come to exist?

Which are the four rocky planets? The four gaseous ones? Why do their sizes differ substantially?

Why was Pluto renamed a “dwarf planet”? Given the discoveries of New Horizons in 2015, should we rename it again? What other dwarf planets do we recognize in our solar system?

What is an asteroid? What are the chief characteristics? Where in our solar system do we most frequently find asteroids?

Distinguish the S-type and the C-type asteroids. What are Trojan asteroids? metallic asteroids?

Why is it significant that some asteroids contain water? that some contain amino acids?

What is planet migration? How does such migration affect asteroids?
What does Randall mean by saying that asteroids may be “remnants of the protoplanetary disk” present before planet formation?

What chief asteroids do we know?

What does *meteoreon* mean? What is “meteoritics”?

How do we differentiate among meteoroids, meteors, and meteorites?
What is a “small Solar System body”?