



GIANT MAPS

SOLAR SYSTEM

OBJECTS IN SPACE CARDS

ASTEROID

Asteroids are small rocky bodies found in the solar system, usually between Mars and Jupiter.

Fun Facts:

- Ceres – the largest asteroid is now considered a dwarf planet.
- Many asteroids contain precious metals, some even contain water.
- A robot, sent by NASA, landed on the asteroid Eros.



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COMET

A comet is a body in space, smaller than a planet, made of ice, dust, rocky materials, and chemicals. Comets usually reside in the Oort Cloud or Kuiper Belt, beyond the orbit of Neptune.

Fun Facts:

- Halley's Comet becomes visible from Earth every 75-76 years. It will return to view in 2061.
- Comets' ice may melt as the comet gets closer to the sun and create a tail.
- Comet Shoemaker-Levy 9 broke up as it got close to Jupiter and created a "string of pearls" of comet pieces in the sky.



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GALAXY

Galaxies are massive systems of stars, their solar systems, and nebulae, dust and gas gravitationally bound together.

Fun Facts:

- The solar system is in one of the arms of the Milky Way galaxy, far from the center.
- Galaxies are classified by their shape into three major categories: irregular, elliptical, spiral. The Milky Way is a spiral galaxy.
- The Milky Way is 100,000 light years in diameter. (946,073,047,258,080,000 kilometers)



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METEOR

A meteor is a streak of light in the sky caused by a meteoroid passing through the Earth's atmosphere.

A meteorite is an object from space that remains intact after falling through Earth's atmosphere and lands on Earth's surface.

A meteoroid is a lump of rock or iron that orbits the sun.

Fun Facts:

- Instead of hitting the ground, a meteorite can burn up in the atmosphere creating a "shooting star," a meteor.
- Meteorites are typically named based on where they fall.
- Scientists believe that about 500 meteorites reach Earth's surface each year.