



Deep Impact Questions



Created for the Deep Impact Mission, A NASA Discovery Mission
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Student - Inquiry

These are the questions that Elicit #1 "What are your ideas about comets?" has brought in past educator workshops. Some of the questions were consistent between both workshops. You can use these questions for discussion or as an evaluation tool with your students.

- Where do comets come from?
- What are comets made of?
- How do they get from their origin to near Earth?
- What is inside them?
- Where are they now?
- How do you tell the difference between a comet and a shooting star?
- How many are there?
- What is the tail made of?
- Do they all travel the same direction?
- What makes them fly?
- Are they hot and burning?
- Is the tail dangerous?
- What is the life span for a comet?
- Is a comet a ball of gas?
- Is it ice?
- Is it a rock?
- Is it a ball of fire?
- Is it like a shooting star?
- What activates comets?
- Why was Halley's Comet so popular?
- Can they be re-routed?
- How close do they come to Earth?
- Do they have a head and a tail?
- Are they from deep in outer space?
- Are they from the black hole?
- What is "periodic"?
- What keeps them going? Do they have something like a jetpack?
- Why are new ones discovered?
- How do you distinguish one comet from another?