Name _____ Date _____



The Geminid Meteor Shower

Read the text. Then answer the questions.

What Is a Meteor?

Space is full of tiny bits of rock and dust. A bit like this is called a **meteoroid**. Most are no bigger than a grain of sand. Sometimes a meteoroid zooms into the air around Earth. It moves so fast that it heats up and glows. The bright streak of light it makes is a **meteor**. People often call it a shooting star, but it is not a star at all! Most meteors burn up high in the sky. If a piece lands on the ground, it is called a **meteorite**.



1. Most meteors burn up high in the sky. **true** **false**

2. A piece that lands on the ground is called a ___ **meteorite** **meteor** **meteoroid**

3. Why does a meteoroid glow in the air?

4. How is a meteor different from a meteorite?

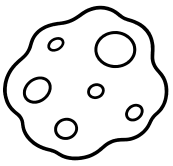






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Name _____ Date _____



The Geminid Meteor Shower

Read the text. Then answer the questions.

The Geminids

A **meteor shower** is a night when you can see many meteors. One of the best showers of the year is the **Geminids**. The best nights to watch are around December 13 and 14. On a very dark night, you might see a meteor every minute or two! The meteors seem to come from one spot in the sky. It is near a group of stars, or **constellation**, called Gemini. That is how the shower got its name. Most meteor showers come from **comets**, balls of ice and dust. The Geminids come from a rocky object called Phaethon. Each December, Earth passes through the dust it has left behind.

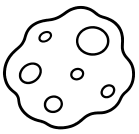
1. The Geminids get their name from ___ **a scientist** **a planet** **a constellation**

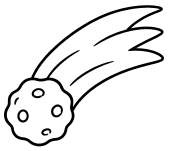
2. The Geminids come from a ball of ice and dust. **true** **false**

3. The meteors seem to come from near the constellation Gemini. **true** **false**

4. On which nights is it best to watch the Geminids?

5. What is a meteor shower?







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Name _____ Date _____



The Geminid Meteor Shower

Read the text. Then answer the questions.

How to Watch

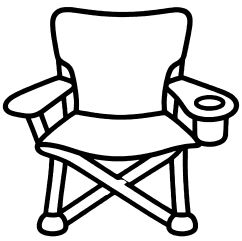
You do not need a telescope to watch a meteor shower. You only need your eyes and a dark place, away from city lights. Lie back on a blanket or a chair, and look up at a wide part of the sky. Then wait. It takes about half an hour for your eyes to get used to the dark. Try not to look at a bright screen, or your eyes will have to start over! In the north, the Geminids start to show up in the evening, so you do not have to stay up all night.

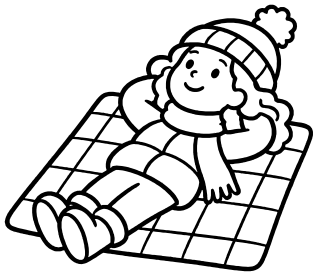
1. You need a telescope to see a meteor shower. **true** **false**

2. How long do your eyes need to get used to the dark? **a minute** **half an hour** **a day**

3. Why should you not look at a bright screen while you watch?

4. Where is a good place to watch a meteor shower?

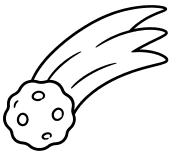






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Name _____ Date _____



The Geminid Meteor Shower

Draw a line from each space word to what it means.

meteoroid	a ball of ice and dust that travels around the sun
meteor	a piece of rock from space that lands on the ground
meteorite	a group of stars that people see as a shape
meteor shower	a tiny bit of rock or dust in space
comet	a streak of light made by a bit of rock burning up in the air
constellation	a night when many meteors can be seen

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Name _____ Date _____

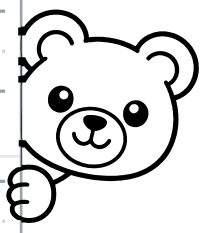


The Geminid Meteor Shower

Keep a sky-watching log. Count the meteors you see.

Watch the sky with a grown-up. Each time you look, write the time and make a tally mark for each meteor.

	Time	Meteors I counted	What I noticed
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			



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Name _____ Date _____



The Geminid Meteor Shower

Write a poem. Start each line with a letter of METEOR.

Words to try

M midnight, moving, magic
E each one, evening, eyes
T tail, tonight, twinkling
O over the hills, one more, oh!
R rocks, racing, rushing



M

E

T

E

O

R

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The Geminid Meteor Shower

Read the text. Then answer the questions.

What Is a Meteor?

Space is full of tiny bits of rock and dust. A bit like this is called a **meteoroid**. Most are no bigger than a grain of sand. Sometimes a meteoroid zooms into the air around Earth. It moves so fast that it heats up and glows. The bright streak of light it makes is a **meteor**. People often call it a shooting star, but it is not a star at all! Most meteors burn up high in the sky. If a piece lands on the ground, it is called a **meteorite**.



1. Most meteors burn up high in the sky. **true** **false**

2. A piece that lands on the ground is called a ____ **meteorite** **meteor** **meteoroid**

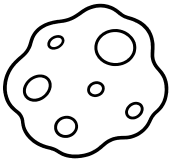
3. Why does a meteoroid glow in the air?

It moves so fast that it heats up.

4. How is a meteor different from a meteorite?

A meteor is a streak of light in the sky. A meteorite is a piece that lands on the ground.

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The Geminid Meteor Shower

Read the text. Then answer the questions.

The Geminids

A **meteor shower** is a night when you can see many meteors. One of the best showers of the year is the **Geminids**. The best nights to watch are around December 13 and 14. On a very dark night, you might see a meteor every minute or two! The meteors seem to come from one spot in the sky. It is near a group of stars, or **constellation**, called Gemini. That is how the shower got its name. Most meteor showers come from **comets**, balls of ice and dust. The Geminids come from a rocky object called Phaethon. Each December, Earth passes through the dust it has left behind.

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1. The Geminids get their name from ____ **a scientist** **a planet** **a constellation**

2. The Geminids come from a ball of ice and dust. **true** **false**

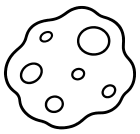
3. The meteors seem to come from near the constellation Gemini. **true** **false**

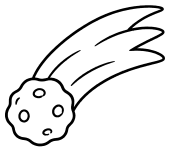
4. On which nights is it best to watch the Geminids?

Around December 13 and 14.

5. What is a meteor shower?

A night when you can see many meteors.







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The Geminid Meteor Shower

Read the text. Then answer the questions.

How to Watch

You do not need a telescope to watch a meteor shower. You only need your eyes and a dark place, away from city lights. Lie back on a blanket or a chair, and look up at a wide part of the sky. Then wait. It takes about half an hour for your eyes to get used to the dark. Try not to look at a bright screen, or your eyes will have to start over! In the north, the Geminids start to show up in the evening, so you do not have to stay up all night.

1. You need a telescope to see a meteor shower. **true** **false**

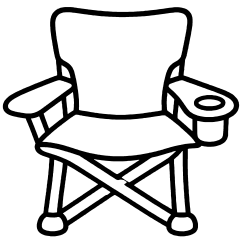
2. How long do your eyes need to get used to the dark? **a minute** **half an hour** **a day**

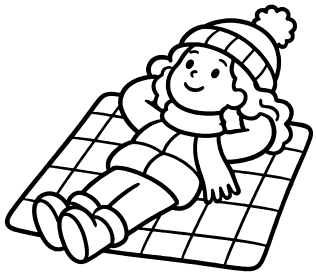
3. Why should you not look at a bright screen while you watch?

Your eyes would have to get used to the dark again.

4. Where is a good place to watch a meteor shower?

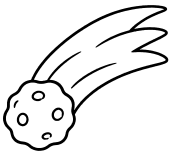
A dark place, away from city lights.





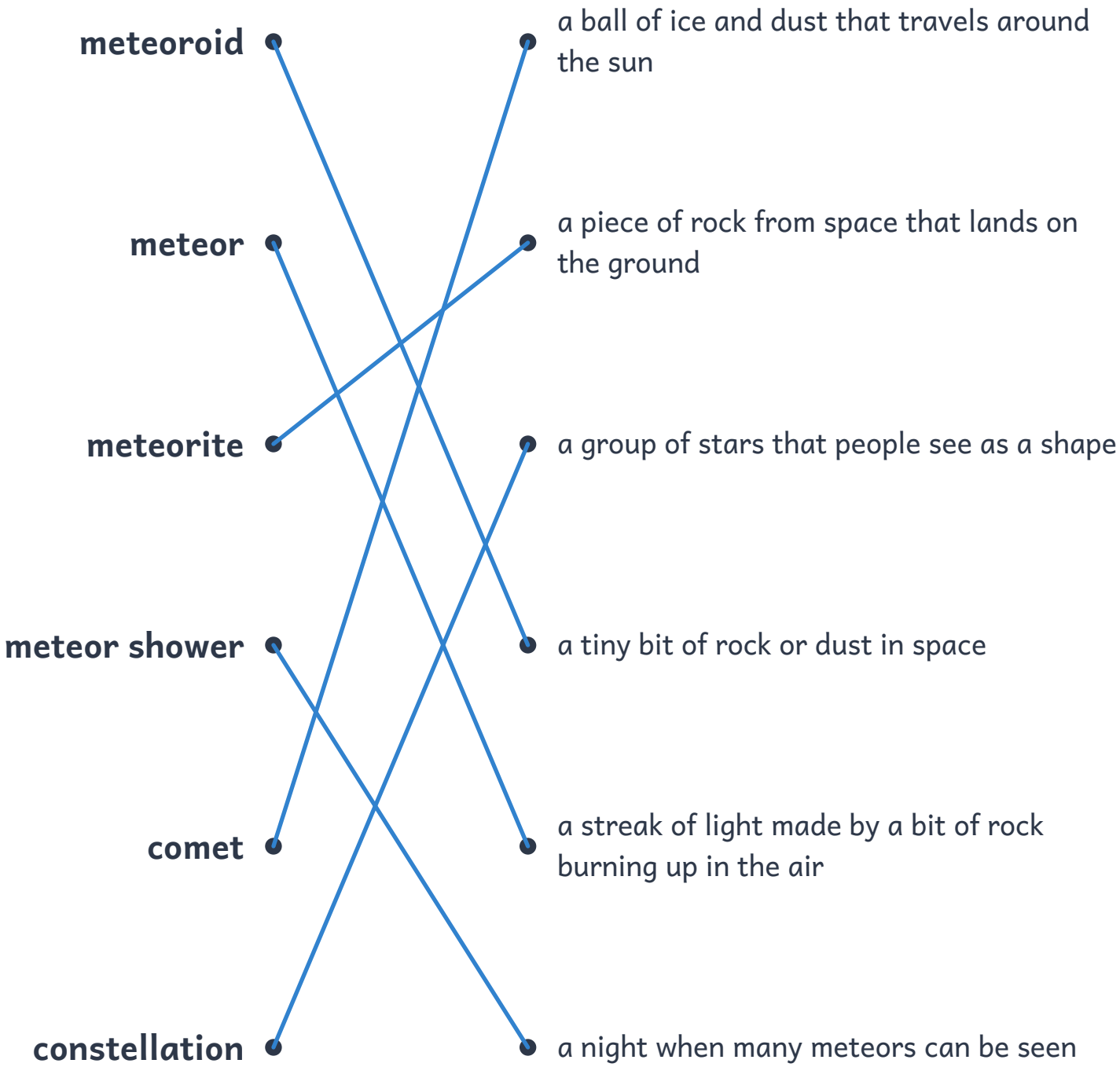


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The Geminid Meteor Shower

Draw a line from each space word to what it means.



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