

Class Mission Starter

Google Space Starter

Search “International Asteroid Day” on Google and watch the screen carefully...you might just spot an asteroid flying across it.

Search effects can sometimes vary by device, so it's worth testing first!

What is an Asteroid?

An asteroid is a rocky object that travels around the Sun. Most are found in space between Mars and Jupiter, but some travel closer to Earth. Scientists watch and track asteroids to learn more about space and help keep our planet safe.

Follow up questions:

1. If your class had a space mission, what would you explore first?
2. How do scientists watch and learn about objects in space?
3. If you discovered a new asteroid, what would you name it?

Design your own Asteroid

Now it's time to design your own Asteroid.

Asteroid name:

Size:

Shape:

Colour:

Speed:

What is it made from?

Is it friendly, mysterious or dangerous?

Track your Asteroid

Your asteroid is travelling through space.

Draw the journey it takes. Does it travel past the Moon? Does it zoom near Mars? Does it safely pass Planet Earth?

Objects to include on your space map:

1. The Sun
2. Earth
3. The Moon
4. Mars
5. Your asteroid

Draw your asteroid's path with a dotted line.

Mission Control

Your asteroid is close enough for scientists to study.

What should Mission Control do?

Choose your mission actions:

1. Watch it carefully using telescopes
2. Send a robot spacecraft to take photos
3. Share the discovery with the science team
4. Study what the asteroid is made from
5. Plan a safe route past Earth
6. Something else: _____

Our Mission Control plan is:

Asteroid Alert Poster

Create a poster to tell people about your asteroid.

Your poster should include:

1. The asteroid's name
2. A drawing of the asteroid
3. Where it is travelling
4. One interesting fact
5. What Mission Control should do next

Poster title idea:

Asteroid Alert: Meet _____!