

EXPLAIN

ARE ALL SPACE ROCKS THE SAME?

MAKE A SPACE ROCKS GAME

30 MINUTES**SUMMARY**

Comets, asteroids and meteorites are the main types of space rocks. They are all different but how can students learn about and remember them? By making up their own game!

In this activity students will be able to contribute what they know and sort new information in a variety of ways, culminating in them creating a class game much like the traditional 'knights, mounts and cavaliers'.

OUTCOMES

1. Students formulate and construct explanations about space rocks and use a range of methods to sort information.
2. Students consider how objects move depending on factors such as size, shape and conditions (e.g. atmosphere vs vacuum)

EQUIPMENT

- Space Rocks Game Worksheet, page 54
- Fact sheets, page 70 - 79; books, video



Possible asteroid, comet and meteorite poses

THE ACTIVITY

Plan:

Facilitate a student discussion about types of space rocks. Together, compile the information they know about comets, asteroids and meteorites and find out what they need to research. You could use a KWL chart.

Students find out about what is the difference between comets, asteroids and meteorites?

Students collect information as a list, Venn diagram, table or mind map

Predict:

Students think-pair-share ways to represent each of the objects using their whole body and try them out.

Have the class agree on three body movements (one each for comet, asteroid, meteorite) to test out for the game.

Test:

Outside or in an empty room, have the leader call out one of the objects. The aim of the game is for students to assume the right position. To increase the competition, have the last two people to get into position eliminated each round.

Analyse:

Does the game work? Why or Why not? are the actions to similar? Can everyone explain what each movement means?

Communicate:

Students explain the game - and the meaning behind the movements - to another class and play it together.

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE CLASSROOM

- Students invent a game for meteoroid, meteors, meteorites