

How Much Do You Know About Comets?



1.	What does kometes mean: a. Beard b. Hair c. Head d. Arm	
2.	In which year was Comet Halley shown in the Bayeux Tapestry?	
3.	When did the Chinese make observations? And can you work out how long ago this is?	
4.	What was the pattern Halley saw?	
5.	When did he think the comet would return?	
6.	Did Halley observe the comet in 1758, if not, why not?	
7.	Are comets in our atmosphere?	
8.	List two questions which the study of comets helps us to answer	
9.	What might have killed the dinosaurs?	
10.	What are the three different parts of a comet?	
11.	Draw and label a comet	
12.	What is the centre of a comet called?	

13.	Why is it hard to observe?	
14.	How dark is it?	
15.	Which comet did early space missions study?	
16.	Is the surface of comet 67P harder or softer than was expected?	
17.	What difference did this make?	
18.	What did the lander called Philae do when it landed?	
19.	Describe what a comet is made of	
20.	What is the word to describe 'many holes'?	
21.	Name two features on a comet's surface	
22.	What animal does Comet 67P look like?	
23.	Was this a surprise to scientists?	
24.	What is the coma of a comet made of?	
25.	How big can the coma get?	
26.	Do changes in the shape and brightness of the coma have anything to do with the Sun?	
27.	What can cause jumps in brightness?	
28.	What can the colour of a comet tell us?	
29.	How many tails does a comet usually have?	
30.	Which way do tails point?	
31.	What are they made of?	
32.	What shape are most comet orbits?	

33.	How long does comet 46P take to go around the Sun once?	
34.	How long does Comet Halley take to go around the Sun once?	
35.	How many times will comet 46P go around the Sun in the time it takes comet Halley to go around once?	