

SHOOTING STARS

Be a space tourist at home

While space travel is an impossibility for most of us, you can still be a tourist from here on Earth by spotting shooting stars!

Space is full of huge and tiny pieces of rock, which burn up in a flash when they enter Earth's atmosphere. The flash of burning rock is called a meteor. As it moves through the night sky, you can see the trail it leaves behind – which we now know as a shooting star.

On most clear nights, you should be able to see up to 10 meteors every hour. But, at certain times of the year, as Earth orbits the sun and passes through space debris, many more meteors appear. When this happens, it is known as a **meteor shower**.