



Comet on a Stick!

Comets that you see shooting across the night sky are actually big balls of ice! You can make a model comet to eat and learn about all of the comet parts while doing it!

Supplies:

Juice

Fruit cocktail

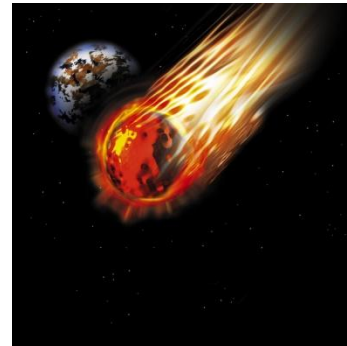
Small plastic cups

Popsicle sticks

Colored sugar

Sprinkles

Fruit roll up



How to make it:

1. Make the nucleus of your comet. On a real comet the nucleus is made of dirty ice. Sort of like a dirty snowball.
Your nucleus will be made of frozen juice and fruit. Open the can of fruit cocktail and add it to your fruit juice. Pour the juice into small plastic cups; put a popsicle stick in each cup.
2. Put the full cups in the freezer for a few hours until they are frozen.
3. Get your supplies ready before you take the comet nuclei out of the freezer. You will need to pour out the colored sugar or fundip onto paper plates.
You will be making the Coma of the comet. The coma of a real comet is made up of a cloud of gases that surround the nucleus. Sublimation Once your coma substances are ready, take the nucleus out of the freezer. You will need to remove it from the plastic cup, you can run some warm water over the cup if it is stuck. Then roll the nucleus in the sugar to represent the coma.
4. The last step is to make the comet tail. You can take a piece of fruit roll up and push the popsicle stick through one end of it. Push the fruit roll up strip all the way up until it meets your nucleus.
The tail on a real comet forms when light from the sun reflects in the gases that have sublimated off of the comet nucleus. Sublimation is when matter changes from a solid to a gas.
5. QUICK, enjoy your comet on a stick before it melts!