

# Comets

Story By: Andrew Frinkle

Andy heard from his friends that a comet was coming. He knew that a comet was a space rock. Space rocks seemed exciting. He wanted to watch it that night. All he had to do was go outside and watch. That was easy enough.

That night, he put on a jacket and went outside. He looked around. He saw the moon, but he did not see anything else. There were only a couple clouds, so that was not the problem. He could see some stars, but nothing new or special. Where was the comet?

He called his friend on the phone. They talked about it. His friend told him where to look, but he still didn't see it. What was going on? Was he not special enough to see it? Were his eyes going bad? What was he doing wrong?

Andy went to get his dad. Together, they looked up in the sky where it was supposed to be. Finally, after several minutes of looking, he saw a fuzzy thing, brighter and bigger than a star, but nowhere near what he expected.

"I thought it'd be like an extra moon or something." Andy complained.

"It's not big enough for that, and it still might be very far away." Dad explained.

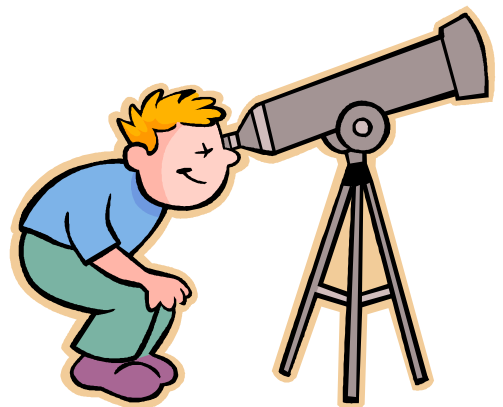
"I still wish I could see it better."

Dad nodded and went inside. When he came back out, he had a telescope. Together, they focused in and saw the comet a little better. It wasn't much, but it helped.

"What else can we see?" Andy wondered.

Dad smiled and aimed the telescope over at the moon instead. That *was* cool. Seeing the craters and the details of the moon up closer was nice.

Astronomy was interesting. Andy made sure to read more about it at school!



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Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What is Andy excited to see in the sky?
  - A. rainbows
  - B. clouds
  - C. the moon
  - D. a comet
  
2. What problem does Andy have when he tries to look at the comet?
  - A. There are too many and he can't find the right one.
  - B. He can't see it.
  - C. It is too bright to see anything.
  - D. The sky is very cloudy.
  
3. When he can't find the comet, what does Andy do first?
  - A. Call a friend
  - B. Ask dad for help
  - C. Get a telescope
  - D. Check the internet
  
4. When he still can't find the comet, what does Andy do next?
  - A. Call a friend
  - B. Ask dad for help
  - C. Get a telescope
  - D. Check the internet
  
5. When he is disappointed by the comet, what does Andy's father show Andy?
  - A. constellations
  - B. a planet
  - C. the moon
  - D. a comet

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