

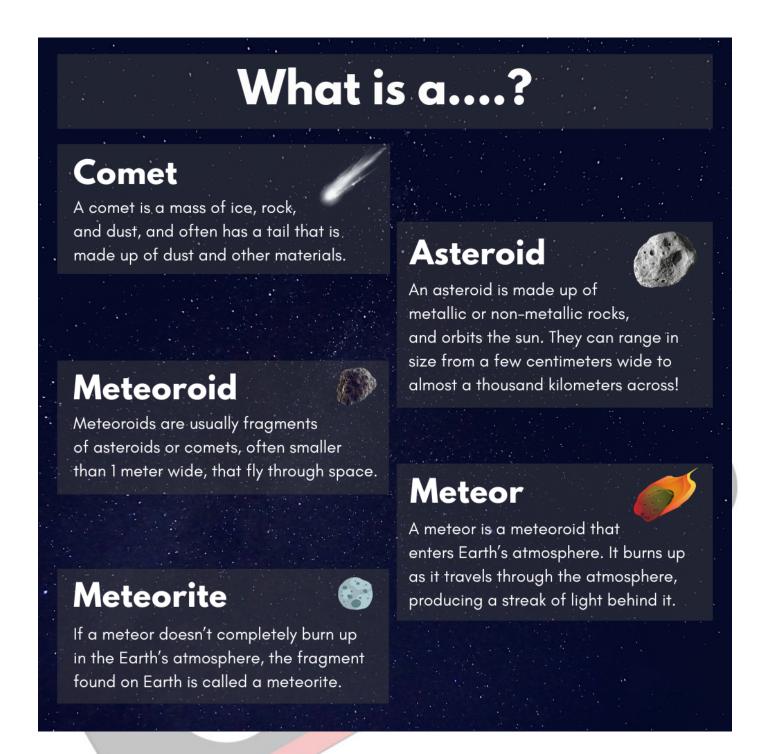
Mother of Dragons Comet

Source: TOI

The celestial phenomenon known as the "Mother of Dragons" comet, formally designated as Comet 12P/Pons-Brooks, is currently undergoing a rare sighting in the skies of the Northern Hemisphere.

- It was first discovered in the early 19th century and is known for its distinctive green glow. This hue is due to the presence of diatomic carbon molecules within the comet.
- It stands out for its volcanic activity. Unlike most comets, it erupts, shooting ice and dust from its core. These outbursts make the comet brighter and easier to see from Earth, earning it the nickname "Mother of Dragons."
- It is a Halley-type comet, meaning it has a relatively short orbital period compared to other comets, and it completes a single orbit around the sun in just over seven decades. The last time it passed by Earth was in 1954, and the next time will be during the mid-2090s.
- It falls into the category of **Jupiter-family comets**, indicating that its trajectory is affected by the gravitational force of Jupiter.
- It's periodic nature provides insights into the dynamics of comets and the evolution of our solar system.





Read More- Hubble Space Telescope, Comets, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

PDF Refernece URL: https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/mother-of-dragons-comet