Visit Trail

Links with National Curriculum: Space Physics - The main features of the Solar System
Matter: Physical changes - Solids, Liquids & Gases Sublimation.

Our Earth Under Threat

Name:

School:

Date:

To begin the trail, go to the **Our Solar System** gallery

Question 1

Find the Martian meteorite.
How do scientists conclude this rock came from Mars?

Question 2

Find the asteroid belt.
Why are asteroids valuable?

Question 3

Find Jupiter.
In 1994 Jupiter had a collision with comet Shoemaker-Levy.
How does Jupiter keep life on Earth safe?

Question 4

Now find Calisto, one of Jupiter's moons.
Why is it the most cratered object in the solar system?

Question 5

Now go to the comets at the edge of the solar system.
Why are scientists interested in comets?

(Hint, find the Rendezvous with a Comet panel).

Question 6

Find the computer terminal called Destroy the Planet.
Approximately how many causalities would there be if a very big meteorite hit?

Question 7

Find the Near Earth Objects.
How fast do they travel?

Question 8

Find the astronomers who look at Near Earth Objects.
What instrument does Dr John Davies use to discover what asteroids are made of?

Question 9

Examine the meteorites on display.
How do they differ from Earth rocks?

Now leave the gallery and go to **The Universe.**

Question 10

Find the tools of the trade section.
We use telescopes to search for Near Earth Objects. When viewing the sky with telescopes, what makes it difficult and why?

Question 11

How do we solve this problem?

Now go to the **Into Space** gallery and find the Orlan spacesuit.

Question 12

When you're in space, it's not just large rocks that pose a threat.
An astronauts spacesuit protects them from high speed micrometeorites.
List three other things spacesuits need to protect against.

Question 13

Find the Protecting Crew section
Have a look at the objects damaged by micrometeorites, where did the solar cells come from?

Congratulations!

You have finished the Our Earth Under Threat trail**.**