

# COMETS

## WHAT IS A COMET?

A COMET IS A VERY SMALL SOLAR SYSTEM BODY MADE MOSTLY OF ICES MIXED WITH SMALLER AMOUNTS OF DUST AND ROCK.



THE MAIN BODY OF THE COMET IS CALLED THE **NUCLEUS**, AND IT CAN CONTAIN WATER, METHANE, NITROGEN AND OTHER ICES.

THE CLOSEST POINT IN A COMET'S ORBIT TO THE SUN IS CALLED "**PERIHELION**". THE MOST DISTANT POINT IS CALLED "**APHELION**".

MANY COMETS ARE FORMED IN THE **OORT CLOUD** AND **KUIPER BELTS**. TWO OF THE OUTERMOST REGIONS OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM.

