National Geographic Kids Reader: Meteors

Notes for parents: reading this book with your child

- Before your child shares this book with you, look at the front cover and discuss what they know about meteors and planets. Try to name some planets and think about whether a meteor is a planet or something different. If it is night-time and clear, have a look in the night sky to see what you can see.
- Look at the glossary together, reading the key words and their meanings: atmosphere, meteoroid, meteor, friction, solar system, orbit, asteroid, gravity, comet, meteor shower Use the information to talk about how meteors are different to meteorites and meteoroids.
- Here are some ways you can help your child as they learn to read more complex information books:
  - Look at the contents together and choose chapters that seem exciting.
  - Read together, helping your child to understand more complicated ideas. Ask them to recount information and explain the diagrams to you.
  - Help your child to read unfamiliar names: Kuiper Belt, Oort Cloud.
  - After reading, encourage your child to explain one key thing that they have learned about meteors.
  - Help your child to deepen their understanding by making connections with what they can see at night in the sky. Look at the sky together, and see if anything from the book can be identified.
  - Use the internet to watch a meteor shower, then return to the book to reread the scientific explanation.
- Discuss how meteors, meteorites and meteoroids are different, and how they connect to each other.

Pronunciation guide: kuiper (ky-per), Oort (ort)