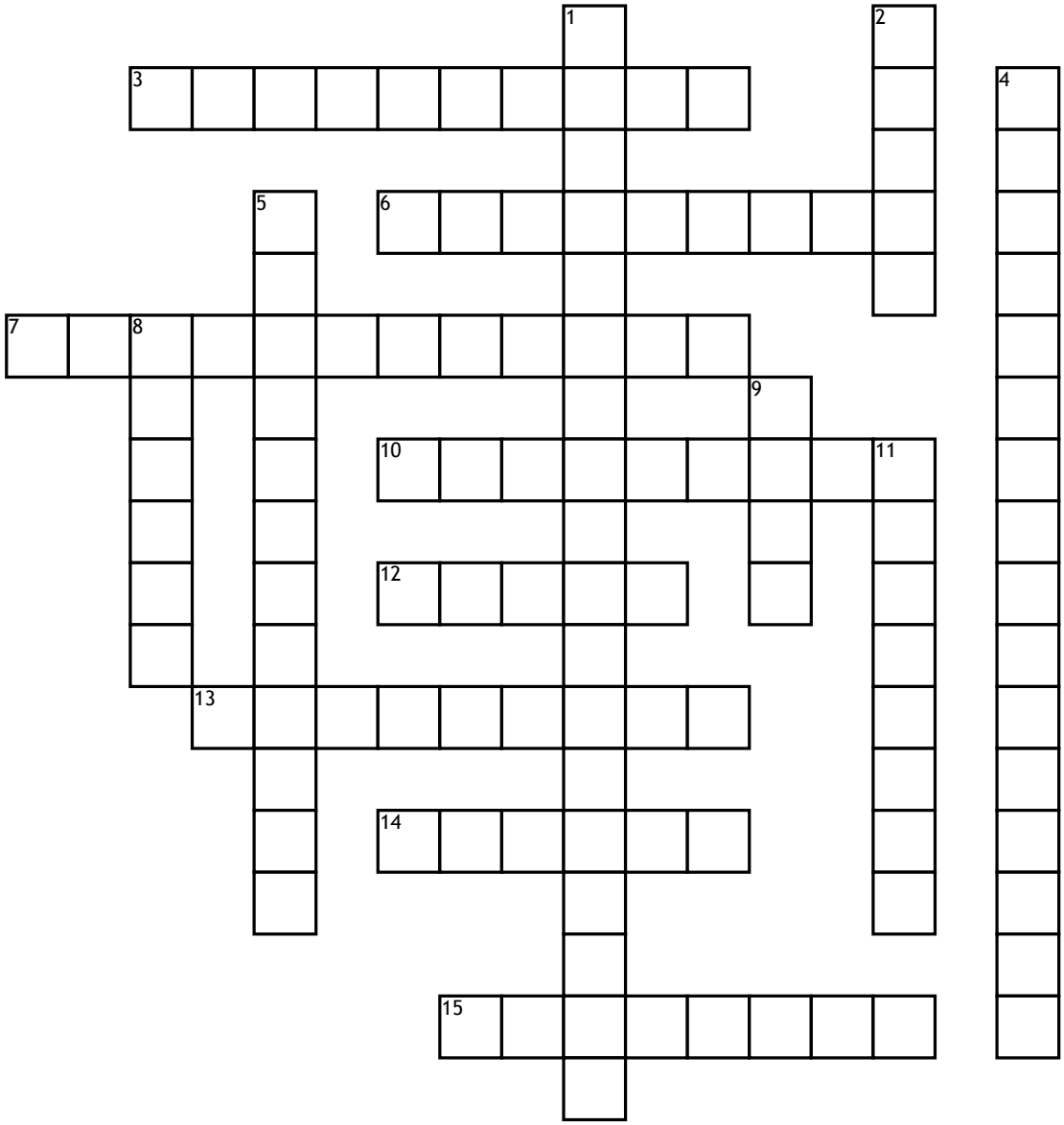
Name: _____ Date: _____

Solar System Objects



Across

3. This type of comet tail forms when the solar wind separates gases from the coma, pushing them outward away from the Sun in a straight path.

6. Any part of a meteoroid that that survives its fall through the atmosphere and lands on the Earth.

7. The solid rocky part of a comet.

10. An interplanetary chunk of matter that is smaller than a kilometer in diameter and most frequently measured in millimeters.

12. The path followed by one celestial object around another celestial object, such as Earth's path around the Sun or the Moon's path around Earth.

13. A stream of charged particles ejected from the surface of a star.

14. The time needed for one complete trip or cycle. For example, the period for the Earth to travel around the Sun is 365 days.

15. A small solar system object composed mostly of rock. Many of these objects orbit the Sun between Mars and Jupiter. Their size can range anywhere from 10 meters in diameter to less than 1,000 kilometers.

Down

1. Being able to see a celestial object, such as a comet, without the aid of telescopes, binoculars or other astronomical devices.

2. A small solar system object consisting of ice and other compounds. A comet will form a coma and sometimes a visible tail whenever it orbits close to the Sun.

4. The path of the solar system between the Sun and the orbit of Jupiter

5. Many and sustained flashes of light that are seen in the night sky as a result of the Earth passing through the former path of a comet. The debris released by the comet causes the meteor shower.

8. The flash of light that we see in the night sky caused by the friction of a meteoroid passing through the atmosphere.

9. The cloud that forms around a comet's nucleus. This cloud is made by solar wind striking the surface of the nucleus, causing a mixture of gas and dust to form around it.

11. This type of comet tail forms when the solar wind separates dust from the coma, pushing it outward away from the Sun in a slightly curved path.