Word Count 158

Name _____

The Asteroid Belt

What if every single student in your school went into a hallway for recess? How many students would bump into each other? This is what it would be like in an asteroid belt. The asteroid belt is a large system of big and small rocks that orbit the sun.

These rocks, we call asteroids, are between Mars and Jupiter. Some scientists believe the asteroids were masses that could have formed a planet. Other scientists believe it was a planet that was destroyed by a meteor. An asteroid can be as tiny as a pebble to the size of Florida. Many hit into each other and break apart into smaller pieces. Others may collide and combine into a different sized asteroid.

Scientists have sent a robot spacecraft to land on an asteroid. It studied an asteroid named Eros. It would be disastrous to fly a shuttle through the asteroid belt. It would be like running around *a packed hallway* during recess.

Name _____

Asteroid BELT

Directions: Complete each section.

Key Ideas & Details

What is the first paragraph about?

What is the second paragraph about?

What is the third paragraph about?

Write at least one question about the passage.

Asteroid Belt

Key Ideas and Details

Directions: Cite evidence from the text and answer in complete sentences.

Name _____

RI.1

1. According to the text, what is an asteroid belt?

RI.1

2. Why would it be hard to pass through an asteroid belt?

RI.3

3. According to the text, how can an asteroid change?

RI.1

4. Where is the asteroid belt?

- Cite evidence to prove your answer.