ANSWERS TO REPRODUCIBLES:

Activity #1: shooting stars (meteors); composed of minerals and ice (comets); orbits sun (comets, meteoroids); has a tail (comets); speedy streak of light (meteors); usually weighs less than a grain of sand (meteoroids); hits the atmosphere faster than 100,000 miles per hour (meteoroids); falling stars (meteors); surface melts into gas and dust when gets close to sun (comets); lasts a second or two (meteors); travels slowly across the night sky (comets); may come in showers or storms (meteors); remains in the sky for many days or weeks (comets).

Activity #2: 1. The red ball is being driven by its forward motion. 2. The design of the leaf, nautilus, and flowers may be the result of the laws (or forces) of nature at work. 3. Black holes are unseen because they are a region of space where gravity is infinitely strong. 4. A black hole can form when (1) a massive star runs out of nuclear fuel and collapses and (2) the mass of the star's core is three or more solar masses. 5. Answers may include: Robots do things that humans are unable to accomplish; they go on long trips; they don't need air or water; they go on space walks; they take pictures. 6. Voyager 1, Cassini, Stardust