



Name: _____ Date: _____

Think About It!

Close-Reading Questions: After reading the articles "Attack From Outer Space" and "Planet Protectors," go back and reread sections to answer the questions below.

1. In the first section of the article, what clues help you infer that people in Chelyabinsk were confused by what they saw in the sky on February 15, 2013?

2. The space rock exploded above Chelyabinsk rather than hitting Earth. What caused injury to people?

3. Reread "Rocks From the Sky." In your own words, explain what a shooting star is.



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4. The section "Rocks From the Sky" details many different types of space rocks. Where did these rocks come from?

5. How is the asteroid that probably led to the dinosaurs' extinction different from the one that hit Chelyabinsk?

6. What details in "Another Close Call" show the power of the 1908 meteoroid explosion in Tunguska?



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7. How has our understanding of meteorites changed over time?

8. What is the B612 Foundation? What does it do?

9. In "Planet Protectors," Diane Murphy says that "Just like we look both ways for cars when we cross the street, we need to look both ways for asteroids." What does she mean?



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Critical-Thinking Questions: After answering the close-reading questions, answer the critical-thinking questions below, thinking about the meaning of both articles.

10. Reread the Up Close prompt. What problem is Earth facing, according to both articles and the text features? How might this problem be solved?

11. Would you like to see an asteroid event up close, like the residents of Chelyabinsk did in February 2013? Why or why not?
