



Guide to watching the Lyrids meteor shower beginning next week

Description

Northern Hemisphere stargazers are in for a treat starting next week as one of the oldest known meteor showers, Lyrids, is set to begin. However, they will need to dodge unfavourable weather conditions and excessive artificial light for an ideal view.

The Lyrids meteor shower has been a yearly spectacle for about 2,700 years. It's known as the oldest meteor shower, with the earliest sightings traced back to 687 B.C. by Chinese stargazers.

This year the Lyrids will take place from April 15 to April 29, with its peak predicted to be on April 22 at 9:23 UTC (5:23am ET) according to EarthSky. During this peak, if conditions are ideal, viewers may be able to witness up to 10 to 15 meteors an hour. There have even been some occasions where up to 100 meteors were visible per hour.

However, the next full moon on April 23 might affect visibility. The waxing gibbous moon's extra light can drown out many faint meteors. For viewers in the Southern Hemisphere, they might just catch a few Lyrid meteors due to their location.

What exactly are the Lyrids? A meteor or shooting star is basically a piece of rock or dust in space that burns up quickly as it collides with the Earth's atmosphere at high speeds. These leave a streak of light in the night sky, creating the meteor shower. Specifically, the Lyrids are caused by debris originating from Comet Thatcher, discovered in 1861.

The meteor shower gets its name from the constellation Lyra, where the meteors appear to sprout from. This is, however, an optical illusion. Lyra is relatively easy to locate on a clear night. It is home to Vega, a star with notable brightness.

Stargazers can definitely use some celestial distraction during these times, and a meteor shower like the Lyrids might just be the perfect escape.

Vocabulary List:

1. **Stargazers** // (noun): People who observe celestial bodies such as stars, planets and galaxies.
2. **Meteor** // (noun): A small body of matter from outer space that enters the Earth's atmosphere producing a streak of light.
3. **Shower** // (noun): A display of meteors that appear to originate from a single point in the sky.
4. **Debris** // (noun): Scattered fragments or wreckage.
5. **Spectacle** // (noun): An impressive or striking performance or display.
6. **Constellation** // (noun): A group of stars forming a recognizable pattern.



Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What term is used to describe the act of stopping a product or service?
Option: Enhanced
Option: Discontinuing
Option: Subscriber
Option: Lossless
2. Who is considered as someone who pays for a service regularly?
Option: Credibility
Option: Subscriber
Option: Decommissioning
Option: Malicious
3. What term refers to a group of stars forming a recognizable pattern?
Option: Spectacle
Option: Subscription
Option: Constellation
Option: Ecosystem
4. What term relates to the features or abilities of a particular system or product?
Option: Underused
Option: Capabilities
Option: Lossless
Option: Retired
5. Which term can mean putting something back together after it was taken apart?
Option: Reassembled
Option: Indefinite
Option: Lamenting
Option: Platforming
6. What is the name of the marine reptile that lived during the Mesozoic era?
Option: Amateur
Option: Meteor
Option: Ichthyosaur
Option: Malicious
7. Which word describes something that has been improved or made better?



- Option: Enhanced
- Option: Stargazers
- Option: Shower
- Option: Curating

8. What celestial event typically results in a bright streak of light in the sky?

- Option: Capabilities
- Option: Lamenting
- Option: Meteor
- Option: Ecosystem

9. What term is used to describe items or signals that point to a particular situation or trend?

- Option: Subscriber
- Option: Package
- Option: Indicators
- Option: Decommissioning

10. Which term refers to the process of shutting down or retiring a system or service?

- Option: Decommissioning
- Option: Amateur
- Option: Malicious
- Option: Enhanced

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

- 11. A _____ is a person who receives or pays for a service regularly.
- 12. The _____ of a source is crucial when evaluating its reliability.
- 13. The fireworks display was a breathtaking _____ in the night sky.
- 14. The Amazon rainforest is a complex and diverse _____.
- 15. The new compression technology promises _____ audio quality.
- 16. The subscription includes a comprehensive software _____.
- 17. An _____ astronomer discovered a new comet in the night sky.
- 18. The timeline for the project is still _____ due to unforeseen delays.



19. The virus was identified as a _____ attempt to harm computer systems.
20. The company is actively _____ its products to reach a wider audience.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. Astronomy enthusiasts who observe the night sky with telescopes and binoculars.
22. A celestial event where numerous meteors appear to originate from a single point in the sky.
23. Pieces of rock or metal that enter the Earth's atmosphere from space.
24. The quality of being trusted and believed in.
25. Someone who receives or pays for a service regularly.
26. Improved or increased in quality value or performance.
27. A collection of related items or services sold together.
28. Refers to data compression that allows the original data to be perfectly reconstructed from the compressed data.
29. The features or abilities of a particular system or product.
30. Items or signals that point to a particular situation or trend.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Discontinuing 2. Subscriber 3. Constellation 4. Capabilities 5. Reassembled 6. Ichthyosaur
7. Enhanced 8. Meteor 9. Indicators 10. Decommissioning

Gap-Fill: 11. Subscriber 12. Credibility 13. Spectacle 14. Ecosystem 15. Lossless 16. Package 17. Amateur
18. Indefinite 19. Malicious 20. Platforming

Matching sentence: 1. Stargazers 2. Shower 3. Debris 4. Credibility 5. Subscriber 6. Enhanced 7. Package
8. Lossless 9. Capabilities 10. Indicators

CATEGORY

1. Sci/Tech - LEVEL6

Date Created

2024/04/14

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