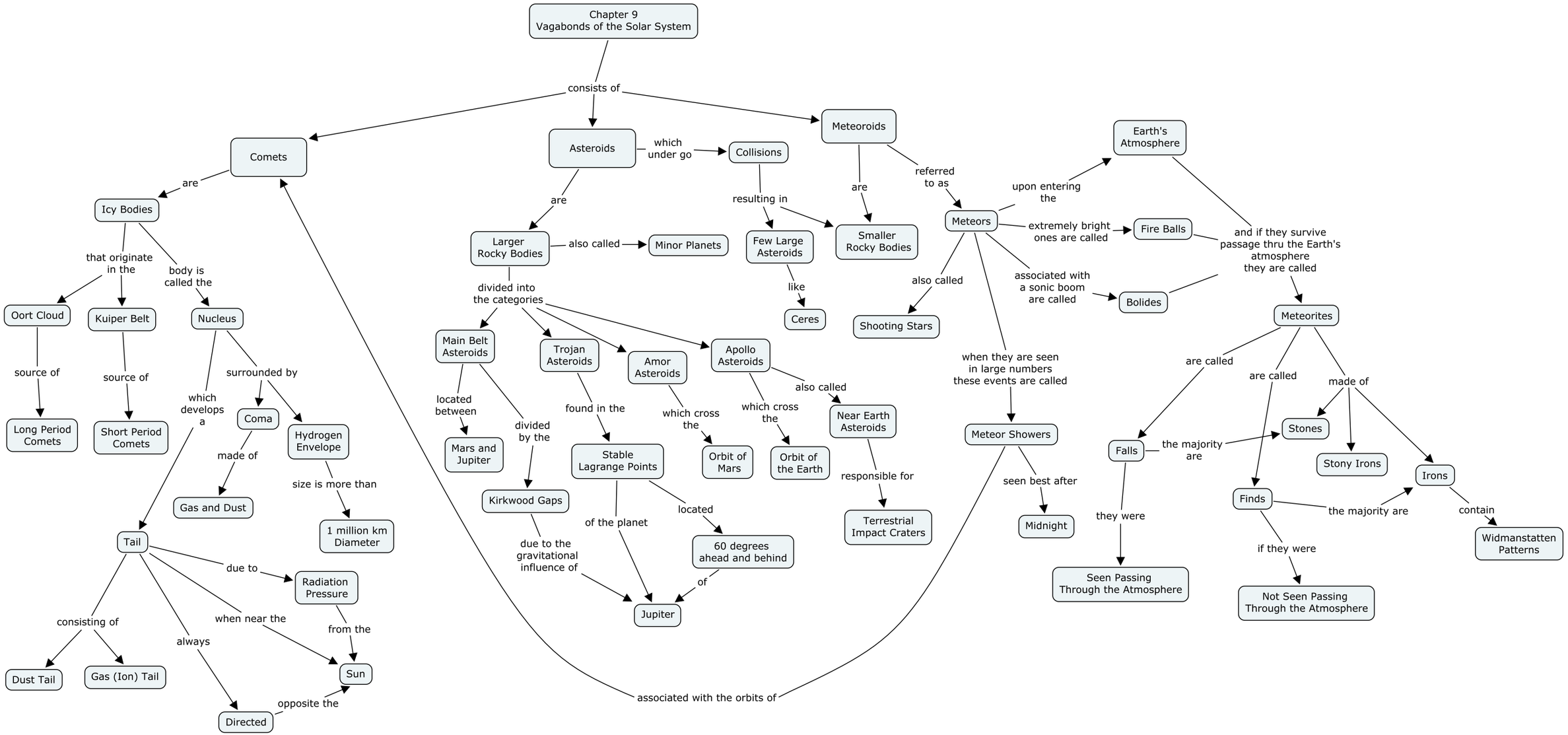
Chapter 9
Vagabonds of the Solar System
consists of
Comets
are
Icy Bodies
that originate in the
Oort Cloud
source of
Long Period Comets
Kuiper Belt
source of
Short Period Comets
body is called the
Nucleus
which develops a
Tail
consisting of
Dust Tail
Gas (Ion) Tail
always
Directed
opposite the
Sun
when near the
Sun
due to
Radiation Pressure
from the
Sun
surrounded by
Coma
made of
Gas and Dust
Hydrogen Envelope
size is more than
1 million km Diameter
Asteroids
which under go
Collisions
resulting in
Smaller Rocky Bodies
Few Large Asteroids
like
Ceres
are
Larger Rocky Bodies
also called
Minor Planets
divided into the categories
Main Belt Asteroids
located between
Mars and Jupiter
divided by the
Kirkwood Gaps
due to the gravitational influence of
Jupiter
Trojan Asteroids
found in the
Stable Lagrange Points
of the planet
Jupiter
located
60 degrees ahead and behind
of
Jupiter
Amor Asteroids
which cross the
Orbit of Mars
Apollo Asteroids
which cross the
Orbit of the Earth
also called
Near Earth Asteroids
responsible for
Terrestrial Impact Craters
Meteoroids
are
Smaller Rocky Bodies
referred to as
Meteors
upon entering the
Earth's Atmosphere
extremely bright ones are called
Fire Balls
and if they survive passage thru the Earth's atmosphere they are called
Meteorites
associated with a sonic boom are called
Bolides
also called
Shooting Stars
when they are seen in large numbers these events are called
Meteor Showers
seen best after
Midnight
associated with the orbits of
Comets
are called
Falls
the majority are
Stones
they were
Seen Passing Through the Atmosphere
are called
Finds
the majority are
Irons
if they were
Not Seen Passing Through the Atmosphere
made of
Stones
Stony Irons
Irons
contain
Widmanstatten Patterns