Asteroid Just Misses Boy!

September 1, 1991
Noblesville, Indiana —

Last night, Brodie Spaulding was standing outside his house. He heard a strange sound. Then a small rock hit the ground. It was black and brown. When Brodie touched the rock, he was surprised. The rock was warm!

Brodie's rock was very special. It came all the way from space to Brodie's yard!

Space is full of rocks. They are called asteroids. High in the air, the asteroid catches on fire. Have you ever seen a shooting star in the night sky? It is really a burning space rock. Most of these rocks burn up before they reach Earth. Only a few hit the ground.

The rock in Brodie's yard was still warm because it had just been on fire! The rock hit Earth hard because it was moving very fast. It made a hole in Brodie's yard.

Brodie felt scared. The rock almost hit him! He also felt lucky. Now he owned a space rock!

1. Why was Brodie surprised when he touched the rock?
   A) It was brown.   C) It was small.
   B) It was black.   D) It was warm.

2. Why did the asteroid make a hole in Brodie's yard?

3. Why did Brodie feel scared about the asteroid?

Scholastic Teaching Resources  Grades 3-4