Difference between a comet and an asteroid -

“A comet is a relatively small solar system body that orbits the Sun. When close enough to the Sun they display a visible coma (a fuzzy outline or atmosphere due to solar radiation) and sometimes a tail.

Asteroids are small solar system bodies that orbit the Sun. Made of rock and metal, they can also contain organic compounds. Asteroids are similar to comets but do not have a visible coma (fuzzy outline and tail) like comets do.” [1]

What they’re made of -

“While asteroids consist of metals and rocky material, comets are made up of ice, dust, rocky materials and organic compounds. When comets get closer to the Sun, they lose material with each orbit because some of their ice melts and vaporizes. Asteroids typically remain solid, even when near the Sun.” [2]

Colours of galaxies -

“Blue: a region with many young stars. High-mass stars live fast and die young, using fuel at a high rate to maintain high temperatures. This causes them to emit hot radiation, which is blueish (google "blackbody radiation" to find out why).

Red: a region of old stars. The high-mass stars have swollen and cooled, and the low-mass stars were never hot to begin with, so they both emit cool radiation, which is reddish.

Patches of red/pink: a so-called HII ("H-two") region. This is a cloud of ionized hydrogen (a cloud of free protons and electrons). When a proton captures an electron, it can give off light of various wavelengths as the electron hops down through energy levels. One particular hop, which is pretty common, emits red light, causing the HII region to appear reddish. HII regions are ionized in the first place by ultraviolet radiation from hot stars, so they indicate star-forming regions.” [3]

[1] - <http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/sciencefacts/space/cometasteroidmeteoroiddifferences.html>

[2] - <http://www.universetoday.com/33006/what-is-the-difference-between-asteroids-and-comets/>

[3] - <http://curious.astro.cornell.edu/physics/98-the-universe/galaxies/observing-galaxies/552-what-do-a-galaxy-s-colors-mean-are-they-its-true-colors-intermediate>

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