

INTRODUCTION TO IMPACT CRATERS



Handout

1. Sketch a crater!

- a. Have a look at the 3D crater samples in front of you. Pick your favourite and try to sketch a cross-section of it below!

A large, empty rectangular box with a red border, intended for sketching a cross-section of a crater.

- b. Now annotate your crater with words from our word bank. You don't have to use all these words! Not all craters have all of these features, so only annotate the features you can see on your crater.

Walls

Rims

Central peak

Floor

Ejecta rays

Terraced walls

2. Impactite rock observations

a. Have a look at each impactite and make observations using the table below.

Station number	Colour(s)	Does it contain grains, crystals, or clasts?	What size are the grains, crystals or clasts?	What does the outside look and feel like? (smooth, rough, shiny, glassy, pitted?)	Do you notice anything else?
1					
2					
3					
4					

b. These rocks were modified by the high pressure and temperature of an impact with a meteorite.

Thinking about the rock cycle, what type of rock do you think they are? (Circle the correct answer)

- A. Sedimentary
- B. Igneous
- C. Metamorphic

c. Go back to your cross-section in part 1 and annotate the two rock types you handled in the lesson (**impact glass** and **impact breccia**) based on where they form in a crater. Can you remember the name of a subtype of impact glass?

Write it here: _____