

CHECK IT OUT	WHAT TO DO	WHAT TO ASK...
<p>1</p> <p>On the table are eight images of craters. Notice the rims, or edges, of the craters. Notice where the craters are in relation to each other.</p> <p>Asteroids and meteoroids have been impacting the Moon since it formed. Meteoroids continue to strike the Moon today. These impacts leave behind craters.</p>	<p>Answer these questions...</p>	<p>Do the crater rims look soft on some and more crisp on others?</p> <p>Do some craters have other craters on top of them?</p> <p>Do some areas of the Moon have more craters than others?</p>

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<p style="text-align: center;">2</p> <p>Choose a role: be the "impactor" or be the "lunar scientist."</p> <p>The "impactor" makes 2 paintings.</p> <p>The "lunar scientist" times him or her for 15 seconds to make the first painting, then for 1 minute to make the second painting.</p>	<p>Lunar Scientist: Stand behind the divider and use the stopwatch to time the "impactor" for 15 seconds. Every 5 seconds, call out, "New color!"</p> <p>Impactor: Coat 3 cotton balls each in a different color of paint. (Use the paint pallet or a plastic plate to hold the paint.) Throw each color for 5 seconds onto the butcher paper. Dip the cotton balls back in the paint to recoat them as you go along. Remember which colors you throw first and last!</p>	<p>What did the cotton balls represent?</p> <p>Do you see features on the butcher paper that resemble craters and their ejecta and rays?</p>

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<p>3</p>	<p>Lunar Scientist: Stand behind the divider and use the stopwatch to time the "impactor" for 1 minute. Every 20 seconds, call out, "New color!"</p> <p>Impactor: Stand over a fresh sheet of butcher paper. Coat a fresh set of 3 cotton balls each in a different color of paint. Throw each color for 20 seconds onto the butcher paper. Remember which colors you throw first and last!</p> <p>When you are done with the two paintings, you will switch roles and repeat the activity.</p>	<p>Does this painting look different than the first one? How?</p>

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<p style="text-align: center;">4</p> <p>Lunar scientists use detailed images of the Moon's surface like a clock: Young craters have crisp rims and lie on top of other craters. Older craters have softer rims and their ejecta and rays may be covered with fresh craters.</p>	<p>Lunar Scientist: Determine which impacts occurred first.</p> <p>Impactor: Show both paintings to the "scientist." Help him or her determine the correct order! Tell that person which paint color you threw first and last.</p> <p>Note your findings on the <i>Moon's Long History: Impact Paintings</i> comic panel.</p>	<p>Which color is on the bottom? This "crater" formed first.</p> <p>Which color is on the top? This "crater" formed most recently.</p>

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<p>5</p> <p>Impact craters on the Moon are a little like candles on your birthday cake: the more you have, the older you are! Scientists count craters to determine how old a lunar surface is.</p>	<p>Lunar Scientist: Determine which painting took the longer amount of time to create.</p>	<p>Which painting has more craters?</p> <p>If the paintings were the craters surface of the Moon, which surface would have been around longer to collect craters — which would be older?</p> <p>If you saw another cotton-ball-splatter-pattern, would you be able to guess how long the Impactor had to make it?</p>

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<p>6</p> <p>Trade places!</p> <p>Reverse roles and start again at step 2.</p>	<p>Lunar Scientist: Take a turn keeping time behind the divider.</p> <p>Impactor: Coat and throw paint-coated cotton balls to make 2 paintings.</p>	