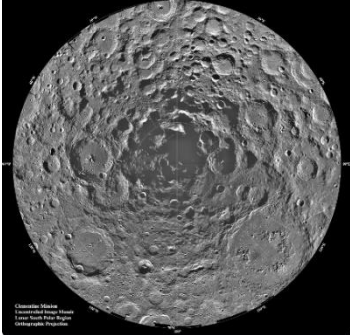




Craters on the Moon. Why are the Moon's craters such different shapes and sizes?



This is a resource created by the Earthlearningidea Team. It explains that around 80% of the Moon's surface is covered in craters. The largest (on the Moon's far side) is over 1000 km across, but there are millions of craters which are at least 1m across. Most craters were caused by meteorites crashing into the moon in the distant past.

This explanation leads to an investigation into the factors which affect the dimensions of craters produced by the impact of external bodies, such as meteorites.

The activity encourages students to:

- use their manual dexterity to set up simple equipment
- make measurements
- determine the relationship between a range of variables and the dimensions of an impact crater
- relate their own investigation to real craters on the Moon.

Resource available from:

https://www.earthlearningidea.com/PDF/68_Moon_craters.pdf

Note: As a follow up activity students can calculate the effects of a meteorite impact on the Earth, using the 'Impact Calculator' found at: <http://simulator.down2earth.eu/planet.html?lang=en-GB>