



Meteorites – alien invaders is published by the Geological Survey of Western Australia in the Geology Explorer series.

We are embarking on an investigative journey, examining the critical evidence that can be used to identify meteorite impact craters, using examples from Western Australia. We will show how this evidence is pieced together to build a case to confirm that the craters and ancient buried or eroded features we see today were formed by meteorite impacts.

Meteorites are potentially life-threatening, destructive, extra-terrestrial visitors from space! They have also been potentially life-bringing with theories of life on Earth being seeded by meteorites, as well as delivering our first water. The oldest recognized meteorite impact structure on Earth is right here in Western Australia! This is Yarrabubba, which is thought to have formed 2229 million years ago.

There are 14 confirmed meteorite impact structures scattered all over the State and many others that are for now termed 'possible' craters.

There are undoubtedly many more as yet undiscovered meteorite impact craters on Earth. If you know what to look for, you might well find a meteorite fragment, or even discover the next meteorite impact crater...so keep an eye out!

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