FOOTPRINTS ON THE MOON

How is the Moon different from the Earth?

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INTRODUCTION

In this activity you are going to:

Investigate how footprints can stay in different Earth materials

Use your results to predict what Moon soil is like

Study real soil samples from the Moon!

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WHO STUDIES ROCKS?

Geologist: A person who studies the rocks, soil and structure of a planet or moon

Harrison Schmitt – Apollo 17

Collecting samples - 1972

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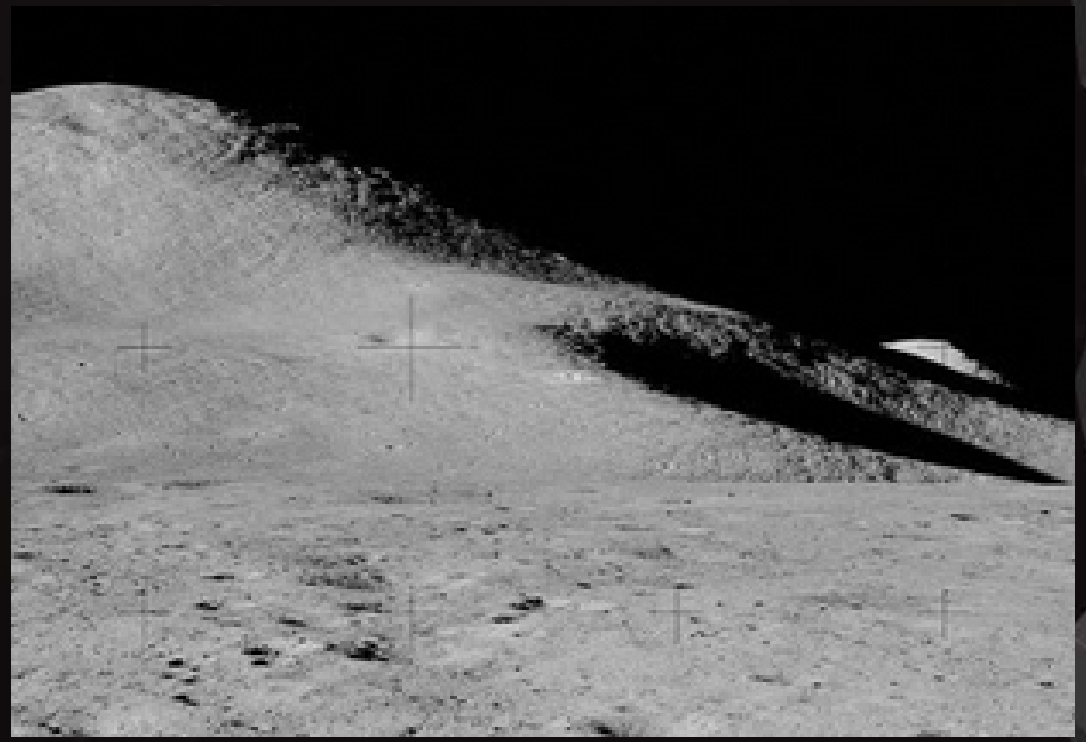
WHAT DIFFERENCES CAN YOU SEE?

Earth

Moon



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WHAT DIFFERENCES CAN YOU SEE?

Earth

Moon

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WHAT DIFFERENCES CAN YOU SEE?

Earth

Moon

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MAKING A MARK

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YOUR TASK

To make your own footprints in sand and flour and observe whether the footprint holds or not

Study the sand and flour grains under a microscope and think about how their shape affects how well the print will hold

Use this information to decide what the soil on the Moon is like – and check for yourself!

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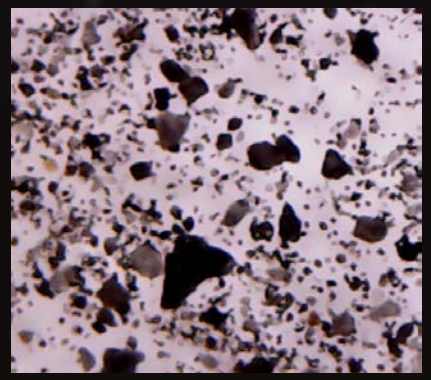
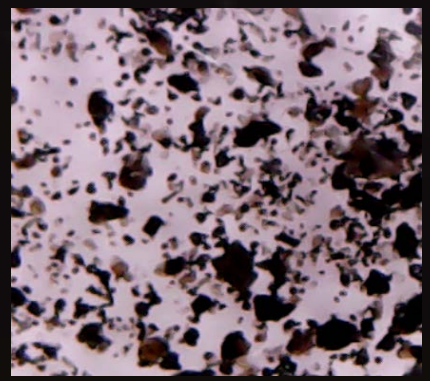
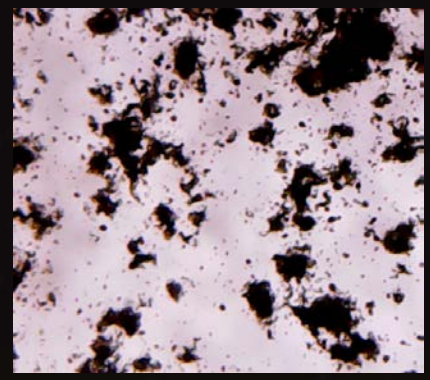
RESULTS

Flour under the microscope

MOST LIKE FLOUR – JAGGED SO STICKS TOGETHER AND HOLDS







Moon soil under the microscope

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