

THE BARRINGER METEORITE CRATER

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Student Handout 6: The Battle for Impact Theory

Student Name:

Date:

Instructions

View the “Weighing the Evidence” slideshow:

<https://youtu.be/Xx-dwxKPGDc>

As you view the slideshow, take notes below on the different scientists, their theories and conclusions.

“Weighing the Evidence” Slideshow Questions

Grove Karl Gilbert

1. When Grove Karl Gilbert analyzed the Barringer Meteor Crater in 1891, what assumptions did he make about the resulting evidence from an impact crater?
2. What evidence did he find?
3. What did he conclude about the crater’s origins?
4. What part of his theory was wrong? Why do you think he made this mistake?
5. What part of his theory was right? Why did he get this part right?

Daniel Barringer

1. When Daniel Barringer presented his pro-impact arguments to the 1906 and again in 1909 to the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia, what pieces of evidence did he present?
2. What part of this theory was wrong? Why did he make this mistake?
3. What part of his theory was right? Why did he get this part right?

Scientific Discoveries: What scientific discoveries helped the scientific community conclude that the crater had an impact origin? Describe 3 discoveries.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.