

## **The Dusty Lunar Surface**

### **Introduction**

**Meteorites over millions of years have ground up the fresh lunar surface into powder. The powdery blanket which covers the lunar surface is called regolith. This module will create a model to illustrate the early lunar impacts and the resulting regolith. The students will get a glimpse at the early solar system and the forces which shaped it.**

### **Class**

**6 Students who are blind**

**3 sighted assistants**

**1 lead instructor**

**Vision acuities – legally blind to totally blind**

### **Modified Materials List for Tactile Use:**

1. 6 boxes of graham crackers
2. 3 shallow plastic pans
3. 10 pairs of safety goggles
4. 3 small hammers
5. 1 small broom and dust pan
6. 1 roll of paper towels

### **Procedures:**

1. Divide the class into 3 groups of 2 blind students, 1 sighted assistant
2. Pass out 1 plastic pan, one hammer and one box of graham crackers to each group
3. Have all participants put on their safety goggles
4. In each of the plastic pans place 3 layers of graham crackers lining the bottom of each pan
5. Have the blind students take turns in lightly hammering the graham crackers
6. Continue hammering until the graham crackers are crushed to a crunchy powder

The hammers represent the meteorites. The hammering reproduces the tremendous impacts. The graham crackers are the lunar surface, and the crushed graham crackers represents the present lunar surface regolith, a powder like substance.

For detailed information on this module and to receive a PDF file of NASA's Teachers guide, Exploring the Moon contact Frank Busutil at [fbusutil2002@yahoo.com](mailto:fbusutil2002@yahoo.com)