



impact:

- a. when one object strikes another
- b. the effect or impression that something makes

Mars Rover Model Celebration – Lesson Plan

Introduction:

One of the new vocabulary words for this unit is “impact”. Impact has several meanings. Impact can mean “when one object strikes another”. It can also mean “the effect or impression that something makes”. In both cases, when we use the word impact, it makes people think of something very powerful or impressive.

Let’s look at two pictures that will help us understand the meaning of the word “impact”. In the first picture, a meteor is impacting a planet. It is striking the planet with a powerful force. The large meteor will have a powerful impact on the planet. It will cause an earthquake and send dust and rock far into the sky. In the second picture, something the girl saw has made an impact on her. Her face shows a lot of surprise. Although we cannot see whatever is impacting the girl, we can tell that it has made a powerful impression on her.

Example:

Here is another example of the word impact. The ball hit the girl so hard that the impact left a bruise on her arm.

If you speak Spanish, you may already be familiar with the cognate “impacto”, which has the same two meanings as impact. Cognates are words that look and sound very similar in two languages and which share similar meanings. If an English word looks or sounds similar to a word you know in another language, the two words may be cognates.

Reflection:

I am going to tell you some sentences. If these things would have a big effect or make a powerful impression on you, put your thumbs up and say IMPACT. If the event would not have a big impact on you, put your thumbs down and remain silent.

- You walk to the park to play with your friends. (thumbs down)
- You meet and shake hands with the president of the United States. (thumbs up)
- You see an especially beautiful painting and still remember it weeks later. (thumbs up)
- You get a mosquito bite on your arm. (thumbs down)

Make it personal:

Think about an event or person in your life that made a big impact on you. Or think about a time when you saw the moment of impact when something hit something else. Share this experience with your neighbor. Be sure to use the word “impact” in your sharing. I will call on some of you to share your experience with the word “impact”.