

Lecture 18: Extinction

Terminology and Definitions: K-T boundary, iridium layer, tektite, spherules, shocked quartz, impact diamond, melt sheet, ejecta blanket, tsunami deposits, Deccan Traps,

People: none

Taxa: none

Classification: none

Dates: none

Localities: Chixculub Crater

Review Questions:

When did the five major extinctions take place?

What were the two most significant extinction in Earth history?

How was Chixculub crater first discovered and “made” visible?

How does marine regression (sea level drop) cause shallow water communities to go extinct?

What are the five major driving forces behind the 6th mass extinction?

How does climate change drive changes in the distribution of organisms according to elevation and latitude?