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| Nota di contenuto | Getting started. Early solar system materials, processes, and chronology / Yuri Amelin -- Origin of the Earth and the late heavy bombardment / Marc Norman -- Early Earth atmosphere and oceans / James Kasting -- Overviews of early Earth processes. Modelling early |

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/ Stefan Claesson, Gennadiy Artemenko, Svetlana Bogdanova and Leonid Shumlyanskyy / The Palaeoarchaeon record of the Zimbabwe Craton / Axel Hofmann -- Ancient Antarctica : the Archean of the East Antarctic Shield / Simon Harley -- Life. Implications of carbonate and chert isotope records for the early Earth / Graham A. Shields -- Archean cherts : formation processes and paleo-environments / Morgane Marine Ledevin -- The significance of carbonaceous matter to understanding life processes on early Earth / Mark Adriaan Van Zuilen -- Eoarchean Life from the Isua supracrustal belt (Greenland) / Allen Nutman -- Depositional setting of the fossiliferous, c. 3480 Ma Dresser Formation, Pilbara Craton : a review / Martin Julian Van Kranendonk -- Early Archean (pre-3.0 Ga) cellularly-preserved microfossils and microfossil-like structures from the Pilbara Craton, Western Australia : a review / Kenichiro Sugitani -- Traces of early Life from the Barberton Greenstone Belt, South Africa / Keyron Hickman-Lewis, Frances Westall and Barbara Cavalazzi.

Sommario/riassunto

"Earth's Oldest Rocks, Second Edition, is the only single reference source for geological research of early Earth. This new edition is an up-to-date collection of scientific articles on all aspects of the early history of the Earth, from planetary accretion at 4.567 billion years ago (Ga), to the onset of modern-style plate tectonics at 3.2 Ga. Since the first edition was published, significant new advances have been made in our understanding of events and processes on early Earth that correspond with new advances in technology. The book includes contributions from over 100 authors, all of whom are experts in their respective fields. The research in this reference concentrates on what is directly gleaned from the existing rock record to understand how our planet formed and evolved during the planetary accretion phase, formation of the first crust, the changing dynamics of the mantle and style of tectonics, life's foothold and early development, and mineral deposits. It is an ideal resource for academics, students and the general public alike"--
