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Autore	Lowman Paul D
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5.3 Impact craters 5.4 Cratering studies and the space age; 5.5 Origin of continents; 5.6 Origin of ocean basins; 5.7 Economic importance of terrestrial impact structures; 5.8 Origin of the Sudbury Structure; 5.9 Impacts and basaltic magmatism; 5.10 Impacts and mass extinctions; 5.11 Summary; CHAPTER 6 Comparative planetology and the origin of continental crust; 6.1 Introduction; 6.2 Origin of the continental crust; 6.3 Previous studies; 6.3.1 Crustal province boundaries: are they sutures?; 6.3.2 Ensilic greenstone belts; 6.3.3 Terrane accretion vs. reworking; 6.4 Thermal histories of planets
6.5 Crustal evolution in silicate planets 6.5.1 First differentiation; 6.5.2 Late heavy bombardment; 6.5.3 Second differentiation; 6.5.4 Summary; 6.6 A model of continental crust; 6.5.1 First differentiation; 6.5.2 Late heavy bombardment; 6.5.3 Second differentiation; 6.5.4 Summary; 6.6 A model of continental crust; 6.7 Evolution of the continental crust; 6.7.1 Stage I: first differentiation; 6.7.2 Stage II: second differentiation; 6.8 Petrologic evolution of the Earth; CHAPTER 7 Geology and biology: the influence of life on terrestrial geology; 7.1 Introduction; 7.2 Gaia 7.3 The geologic role of water

Sommario/riassunto

Account of the impact of space exploration on our understanding of the geology and geophysics of Earth.
