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MARS IN INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIA

Abstract

Indigenous socio-cultural associations with the night sky are complex, with astronomy forming a rich part of the indigenous Australian culture. Despite this there is a limited understanding of how Mars is seen within these populations by the wider scientific community. Using historical and ethnographic descriptions gathered from audio, video, visual, and written resources, a larger understanding of the perceptions and the role Mars plays in Australian Indigenous communities is available. I present accounts of the planet Mars in Indigenous Australia