

# Winchcombe meteorite

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**In news-** A piece of the Winchcombe meteorite that fell in the town of Winchcombe in Gloucestershire in the UK in February 2021 is set to be displayed at the National History Museum.

## **About the meteorite-**

- The piece of meteorite is a 103 gram **fragment of black rock resembling coal**.
- It dates back to the birth of the solar system nearly 4.5 billion years ago.
- Examining it may offer scientists and researchers clues about the beginning of the solar system and maybe even the Earth.
- Winchcombe is also **significant** because it is the meteorite to have fallen and recovered from the UK in about 30 years.
- This type of meteorite is known as a **carbonaceous meteorite**.
- Out of about 65,000 known meteorite types, only about 1,000 are of this particular type.
  
- **Meteoroids** are objects in space that range in size from dust grains to small asteroids.
- When meteoroids enter the Earth's atmosphere they are called meteors.

If a meteoroid enters the Earth's atmosphere and hits the ground, it is called a **meteorite**.