**Asteroids**

Movies make asteroid crashes possibleThere are many Hollywood movies about asteroids crashing into Earth and destroying us.

Experiments to chan ge the directions of asteroid killers made.

The space agency NASA may have an answer to stop this happening. It tested a spacecraft that could change the direction of an asteroid so it doesn't hit our planet. The $325 million spacecraft is called DART. It set off on its journey in November 2021. Its goal was to crash into an asteroid called Dimorphos. DART hit the centre of the asteroid at 24,000 kph on Monday. Scientists do not know if they have changed the asteroid's direction. They will find out in a few weeks when they get data.

It is the first time for humans to change the direction of an asteroid. A NASA spokesperson said DART was the first of many "planetary protection missions".

 Dinosaurs doomed we could avoid it.

 He talked about the end of the dinosaurs. He said: "We want to have a better chance than the dinosaurs had 65 million years ago." He added that all the dinosaurs could do was to "look up and say, 'Oh asteroid'". NASA also said DART was a "new era for humankind".

The technology to save ourselves but not certain yet.

 It said: "It's an era in which we potentially have the capability to protect ourselves from something like a dangerous, hazardous asteroid impact."

*2022 Breaking News*

**Is NASA Aware of Any Earth-Threatening Asteroids?**

*Is NASA aware of any Earth-threatening asteroids? No, luckily there are no known asteroid threats to Earth for at least 100 years. But that doesn’t mean we’re not looking — just in case. NASA JPL asteroid expert Davide Farnocchia breaks it down*.

A rare event in history

Now, we know that asteroid impacts have happened in the past and can certainly happen in the future. But we should keep in mind that those are rare events. An asteroid impact that could cause serious regional damage only happens every few thousand years or longer.

YET in case we observe the sky

Still, it's a good idea to protect us against that possibility and the rule of the game is find asteroids before they find us. And that's why for over 20 years, NASA has been funding search programs to observe the sky pretty much every single night to find and track asteroids.

Many asteroids have been discovered

And we've been doing a pretty good job at that. So far, we've discovered more than a million asteroids, including 95 percent of the asteroids that are greater than one kilometer and that could come close to the Earth.

No close and potential threat from these asteroids

Once we discover an asteroid, we project its motion into the future to assess the possibility of an impact with Earth. We have a scale called Torino scale that helps us rank the risk coming from each asteroid. It goes from zero, which is lowest risk, to 10, which is highest risk. And the good news is that for all the asteroids that we've discovered so far, the Torino scale is zero — so, lowest risk for the next hundred years.

So, is NASA aware of any Earth-threatening asteroids? No. But we will keep searching the skies just in case.

*NASA.gov 2021*

TITLE : **Asteroids**

**Introduction The outer space has always been both an object of awe and fear. This set of documents consisting of two online articles from Breaking news and NASA.gov respectively published in 2022 and 2021 together with the poster of the movie Don’t look up directed by A McKAY and released in 2021,examines the possible impacts of asteroids on earth and begs the following question : Are asteroids a serious threat to Mankind ?**

**The fact : Dinosaurs and many asteroids drift**

 **According to both documents, asteroids are a scientific reality since we have discovered many of them over the 2 last decades comments NASA.org . Likewise the prospect of a crash is legitimate because the Earth was hit by one asteroid 65 million years ago states Breaking News and that event brought about the end of dinosaurs adds the same journalist..**

**But it is an irrational fear : small proba + fiction**

 **No matter how real asteroids are, NASA points out that an impact is very unlikely to happen whereas many movies according to Breaking News have wrongly emphasized the probability of an asteroid crash. Likewise, the poster gives off the feeling that a crash is highly possible and the future is bleak judging from the grey lifeless background.**

**and yet we observe and make costly experiments.**

 **No matter how small the chance of a crash may be, both articles read that experiments have been carried out , a constant space observation of asteroids NASA.org informs the reader or a spacecraft sent to deflect the direction of potential asteroids killers says Breaking News in the prospect of a crash. Science seems to be in a grey area as to asteroids The uncertainty of a crash remains high states says Nasa.gov just as the efficient effect of the spacecraft is Breaking news states.**

 **Asteroids are a reality but might not be a serious threat, save in fiction and yet science abides by the precautionary principle and tries to check the prospect of a crash .**

**265 words**