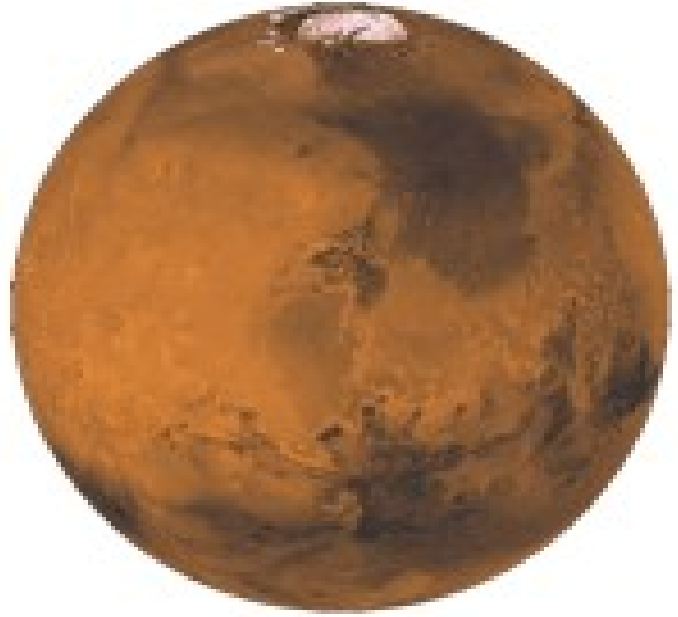


Name: _____

Mars

by Cynthia Sherwood



The "Red Planet"—Mars—is the fourth planet from the sun and one of Earth's next door neighbors. Mars was named after the Roman God of war because its reddish-orange color looks a little like blood. The special color actually comes from rust and other minerals in its soil.

The surface of Mars includes many amazing features. There's a canyon that's much deeper and longer than the Grand Canyon in Arizona. There's also a volcano that's the largest in our solar system. "Olympus Mons" volcano is fourteen miles tall. That's three times higher than Mount Everest.

Scientists say also think the

You may have any little green

microscopic creatures once lived on Mars. The evidence comes from meteorites found on Earth. Other scientists say they don't believe it, so we don't know the right answer.

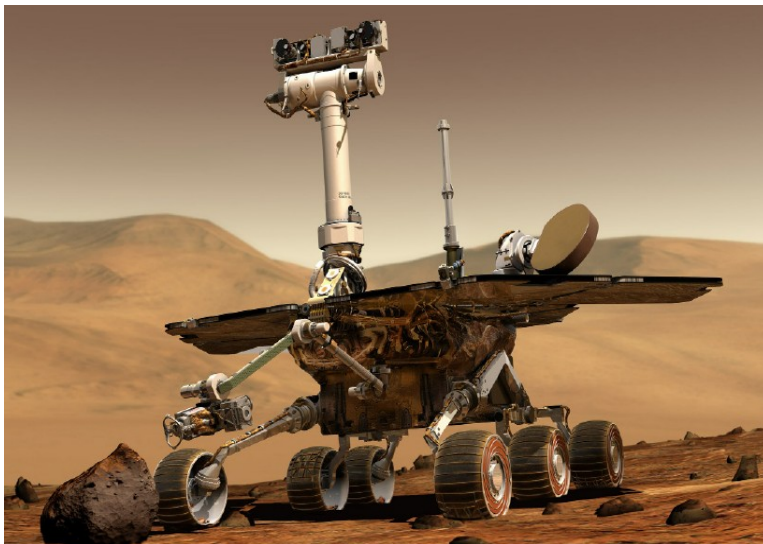


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Mars. They

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Images Courtesy NASA/JPL-Caltech

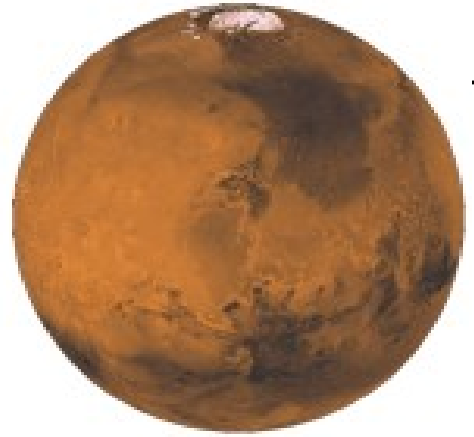
Scientists have sent radio-controlled robots to Mars. These machines, called rovers, have cameras, microscopes, and drills on them. Scientists can drive the rovers around the Red Planet, just like the radio-controlled toy cars many kids have on Earth. The rovers are actually able to send pictures back to Earth.

While rovers roam the planet every day, no person has ever set foot on Mars. NASA has made plans for a manned mission to take place decades from now. Perhaps then we'll learn the truth of whether there was once life on a planet besides Earth.

Name: _____

Mars

by Cynthia Sherwood



1. How did Mars get its reddish color?

2. Have there ever been living things on Mars?

- a. No
- b. Yes
- c. Only below the soil
- d. Some scientists think so, but others aren't sure.

3. Which

- a. Mar:
- b. Mal
- c. Mal
- d. Nor



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4. What is Olympus Mons?

- a. a canyon
- b. a volcano
- c. a crater
- d. a moon

5. How many people have walked on Mars?

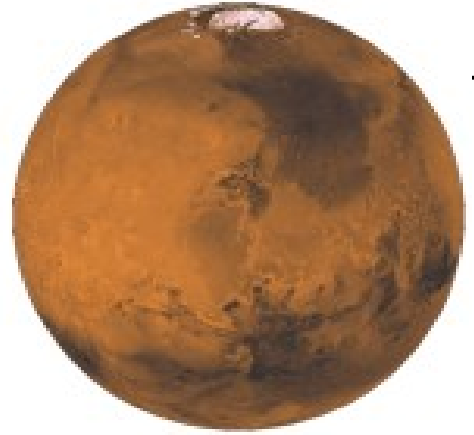
- a. one
- b. two
- c. eleven
- d. none

6. What is a Mars rover?

ANSWER KEY

Mars

by Cynthia Sherwood



1. How did Mars get its reddish color?

Martian soil has rust and other minerals in the soil that give the planet its reddish color.

2. Have there ever been living things on Mars? **d**

a. No

b. Yes

c. Only below the soil

d. **Some scientists think so, but others aren't sure.**

3. Which

a. Mar:

b. Mal

c. Mal

d. **Nor**

PREVIEW

Please log in or register to download the printable version of this worksheet.

4. What is Olympus Mons? **b**

a. a canyon

b. **a volcano**

c. a crater

d. a moon

5. How many people have walked on Mars? **d**

a. one

b. two

c. eleven

d. **none**

6. What is a Mars rover?

A radio-controlled robot that moves around the surface taking pictures.