

Mars Study Sheet

1. Red Planet Mars is often called this due to its reddish appearance.
2. Olympus Mons The largest volcano in the solar system, found on Mars.
3. Martian An adjective used to describe things related to Mars.
4. Valles Marineris A vast canyon system on Mars, much larger than the Grand Canyon on Earth.
5. Phobos One of Mars' two small moons, named after the Greek god of fear.
6. Deimos Mars' other small moon, named after the Greek god of dread.
7. atmosphere Mars has a thin one, primarily composed of carbon dioxide.
8. Curiosity NASA rover that explored Mars, searching for signs of past life.
9. Perseverance Another NASA rover on Mars, designed to study its geology and climate.
10. dust storms Common weather phenomena on Mars, sometimes covering the entire planet.
11. Gale Crater The location where the Curiosity rover landed on Mars.
12. Water ice Found on Mars' polar ice caps and below its surface.
13. redox reactions Chemical processes that contribute to the reddish color of Mars.
14. Tharsis Plateau A large volcanic plateau on Mars that hosts many of its volcanoes.
15. MAVEN NASA mission to study the Martian atmosphere and its history.
16. Sols Martian days, each sol is approximately 24.6 hours long.
17. Opportunity A Mars rover that operated for over 14 years before losing contact in a dust storm.
18. Viking NASA's first successful Mars lander, which operated in the 1970s.
19. regolith The layer of loose, fragmented material covering Mars' surface.
20. methane A gas occasionally detected in Mars' atmosphere, raising questions about potential microbial life.