

Mars

Appearance

Mars is a planet in our solar system, it is often called the Red Planet because of its interesting and special mineral found on its surface. Mars is covered in towering mountains, deep craters and crashing asteroids and meteorites. The red soil on Mars contains the chemical iron oxide, also known as rust.



Location

Mars is the second smallest planet in our solar system, it is half the size of the Earth. However, because Mars is a desert planet it has the same amount of dry land as the Earth.

Temperature

Although, it is the fourth planet from the Sun, Mars is much colder than Earth! Scientists have estimated it is about -55 degrees on Mars.

Time on mars

A year on Mars is 685 days. That's about twice as long as a year on Earth. This is because Mars is further away from the Sun, meaning its orbit takes longer. However, interestingly a day on Mars is 24 hours and 39 minutes long less than an hour than Earth.

Fascinating fact

If you drop a rock on Mars, it would fall to the ground more slowly than a rock on earth because gravity on mars is just 38% of Earth's gravity.