



surface:
the outside part or top layer of something

Mars Rover Model Celebration – Lesson Plan

Introduction:

One of the vocabulary words for this unit is “surface”. A surface is “the outside part or top layer of something”. Usually, it is the part that we can see; it is not hidden by something else. Almost everything has a surface—windows, tables, doors, cars, and water, for example. Let’s look at a picture that will help us understand the word surface. This is a picture of the surface of the moon. The moon’s surface has many craters where space rocks and asteroids have hit it. We say that the craters are on the surface of the moon because they are on the outside part and are not covered up. When astronauts traveled to the moon, they landed their spacecraft on the surface, the outside part. However, if the astronauts had made a tunnel into the moon and went inside to explore, they would no longer be on the surface.

Example:

Here is another example of people use the word surface. The surface of the table was very dirty, so mom wiped it off with a damp paper towel. People put plates and platters of food on the surface of tables. As people eat, sometimes food particles will sometimes fall on the surface or something will spill. This can make the table stick or dirty. Most people want to eat on a clean surface, so when the surface gets soiled with food or drink, people will clean the table.

Reflection:

I am going to name some things. If you would usually find these things on the surface of something, put your thumbs up and say SURFACE. If you would not usually find this things on the surface, put your thumbs down and remain silent.

- Roads (thumbs up)
- A boat (thumbs up)
- A cave (thumbs down)
- Fish(thumbs down)

Make it personal:

Think about your desk at school. During the school day, you put many items on the surface of your desk, such as pencils and text books. Share with your neighbor some of the things you will put on your school desk surface during the course of a day. Try to come up with at least one item that no one else will think of. Begin each sentence with, “One thing I put on the surface of my school desk is...” I will ask some of you to share your most creative ideas.