

Lesson 3: Research Tools and Skills

Engagement Questions:

What kind of fly-by photographs were the Mariner IV, VI, and VII able to take of Mars? _____

What evidence did Viking 1 discover that makes us think there might have been water on Mars? _____

What are the names of the twin Mars Exploration Rovers (MER) that landed on Mars in 2004? _____

According to the tour, what is Opportunity's next big destination? _____

Why did the scientists know that the Phoenix Lander wouldn't last very long? _____

Exploration Activity:

Mars Facts

Meaning of the Name	
Diameter of Mars in mi/km	
Length of a Day	
Length of a Year	
Maximum Distance from Earth in mi/km	
Minimum Distance from Earth in mi/km	
Gases in the Atmosphere	
Average Temperature in °C/°F	
Temperature Range in °C/°F	
Satellites	

Exploration Activity:

In what year was Mars first viewed by telescope? _____

What is Olympus Mons? _____

Where is the largest gorge in the solar system located? _____

What is it called? _____

What causes Mars to have seasons? _____

How does that compare to how Earth has seasons? _____

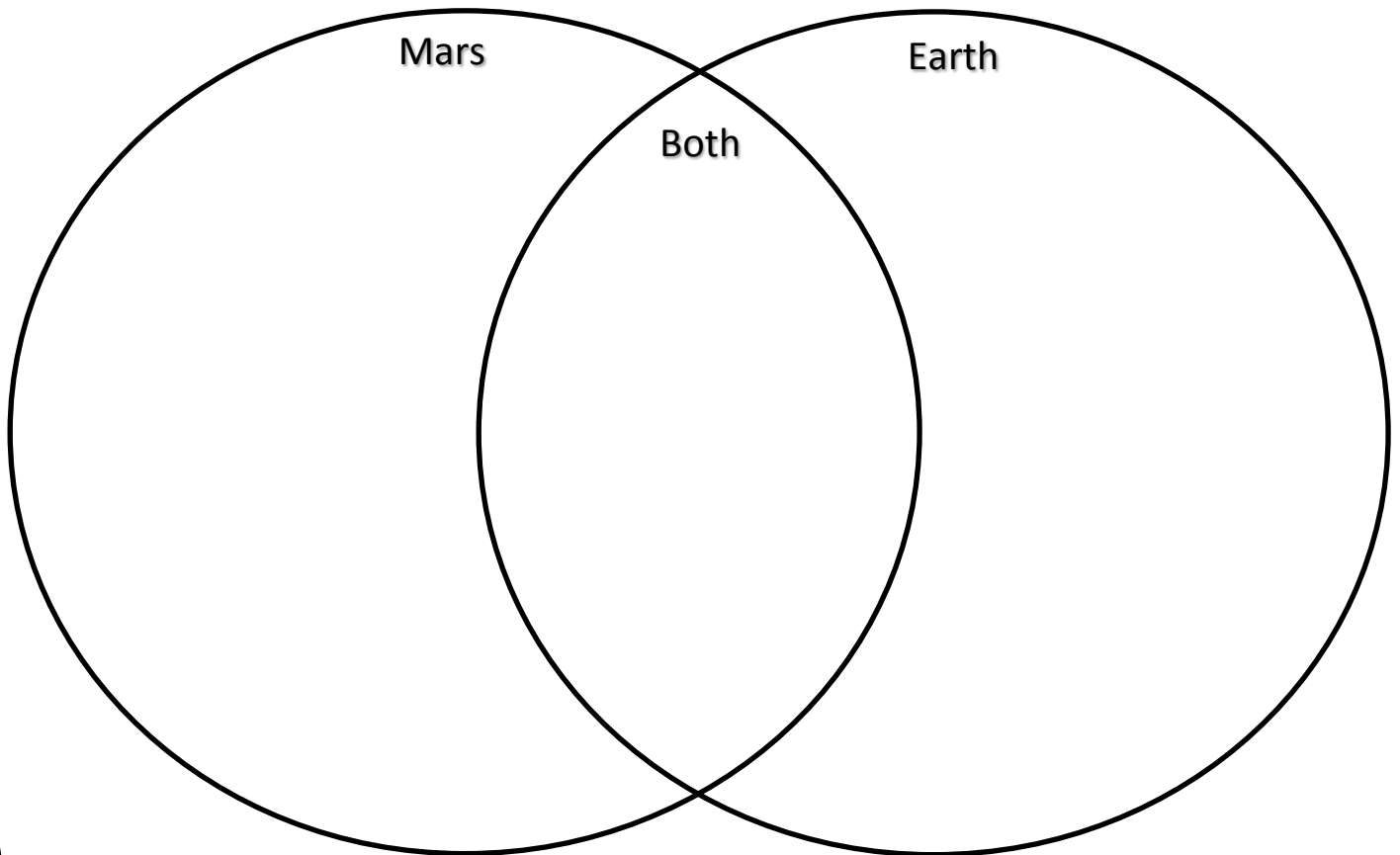
How does the length of a day on Mars compare to the length of a day on Earth? _____

If you weigh 125lbs on Earth, how much would you weigh on Mars? _____

Year	US Lander Name	Reason for Mission
1975	Viking 1 Orbiter/Lander	First successful landing on Mars
1975		
	Mars Global Surveyor	
1996		
		High resolution images of Mars
2003		
	MER - Opportunity	
2005		Returned more than 26 terabits of data (more than all other Mars missions combined)
	Phoenix Mars Lander	
2012		

Explanation:

Based on the information you have researched about Mars, complete the Venn Diagram. If more space is needed, complete your Venn Diagram on a separate page and tape it neatly into the space below.



Evaluation:

Which of the informational text features you learned about today was the most helpful to you in researching information for your Mars Rover project? _____
