

Lesson 8: Where is the Best Place to Measure?

Engagement Questions:

What is your team's scientific or technological question? _____

Why is it important to select a good landing site for Curiosity? _____

Exploration Activity:

Explore Gale Crater and complete the chart:

Weather/ Climate	What are some characteristics of the climate on Mars ?	
Terrain	How does the terrain differ from the terrain on Earth? How is it the same?	
Constants	What elements will remain the same when you test your team's question?	
Variables	What elements will change when you test your team's question?	

Exploration:

Based on what you have learned about Gale Crater, name 3 reasons why it was a good place for Curiosity to land.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Now, use Google Earth Mars to locate a place for your team's landing site. Use a separate piece of paper to research the following locations:

- Eberswalde Crater
- Holden Crater
- Mawrth Vallis
- Olympus Mons
- Valles Marineris

Once you have completed your research and decided on a landing site for your rover, complete the following details:

Chosen Landing Site _____

Exact Location on Mars _____

Description of terrain and climate at this location _____

Explanation:

Now that you have gathered the important details of your team's landing site, record that information on a piece of chart paper.

Along with the landing site, exact location on Mars, description of terrain and climate, be sure to include:

Three reasons why your team chose this site

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

How will this landing site help your team to answer your scientific question?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Evaluation:

How did you select the place for your Mars rover mission? Describe how the site you selected meets the needs of your question. _____
