



**attribute:**

a quality or feature, usually one that is  
considered good or desirable

## Mars Rover Model Celebration – Lesson Plan

### Introduction:

One of the new vocabulary words for this unit is **attribute**. An attribute is “a quality or feature, usually one that is considered to be good or desirable”. Both people and things can have attributes.

Let’s look at a picture to will help us understand the word attribute. A restaurant is looking for a new chef for their kitchen. They have specific attributes that they want the chef they hire to have. They want a chef who can cook well, work on several orders at the same time, and who can make the food look appetizing (delicious) when it leaves the kitchen. They also want a chef who can create new dishes for the restaurant and who works well with the other employees. These are the attributes (qualities) the restaurant wants the new chef to have.

### Example:

Here is another example of the word attribute. Coins and dollar bills have attributes that make them very useful. One attribute of a coin is that it is made of metal so that it will last a long time. Coins are designed to last 30 years. One attribute of a dollar bill is that it is light-weight. This makes it possible to carry a lot of money easily. If all money were made out of coins, it would be very difficult to carry around more than just a few dollars.

### Reflection:

I am going to name some items or people. I want you to think about the attributes you feel each of these should have. Each item may have several different attributes. Raise your hands to share your ideas. (*The answers listed are only suggestions. Accept any reasonable responses from your students.*)

- A dessert (sweet, delicious, chocolate)
- A good teacher (smart, funny, patient, interesting)
- A bicycle (comfortable seat, easy to pedal, fast)
- A Mars Rover landing site (flat, no big boulders)

### Make it personal:

Suppose that you and your family are going to move into a new house or apartment. Think about the attributes—the good qualities and features—that you would like your new home to have. Share your ideas with a neighbor. Start your sentence with, “An attribute I want my new home to have is...” After you discuss your ideas, I will ask some of you share the attributes you thought of with the class.