

Student Name _____ Date _____

WHY DO WE EXPLORE?

THIS ACTIVITY IS ADAPTED FROM NASA'S *DESTINATION: MARS* ACTIVITY GUIDE

MISSION BACKGROUND—THE EXPLORATION OF MARS

SPACECRAFT	COUNTRY	LAUNCH	PURPOSE	RESULT
MARS 1	USSR	1962	FLY-BY	NO DATA SENT
MARINER 3	USA	1964	FLY-BY	LOST DURING LAUNCH
MARINER 4	USA	1964	FLY-BY	SENT 21 PHOTOS
ZOND 2	USSR	1964	FLY-BY	SENT NO DATA
MARINER 6	USA	1969	FLY-BY	SENT 75 PHOTOS
MARINER 7	USA	1969	FLY-BY	SENT 126 PHOTOS
MARINER 8	USA	1971	ORBITER	LOST DURING LAUNCH
MARS 2	USSR	1971	ORBITER/LANDER	SENT NO USEFUL DATA
MARS 3	USSR	1971	ORBITER/LANDER	SENT MINIMAL DATA
MARINER 9	USA	1971	ORBITER	SENT 7,329 PHOTOS
MARS 4	USSR	1973	ORBITER	LOST IN SPACE
MARS 5	USSR	1973	ORBITER	SEND SOME DATA
MARS 6	USSR	1973	ORBITER/LANDER	SENT MINIMAL DATA
MARS 7	USSR	1973	ORBITER/LANDER	SENT MINIMAL DATA
VIKING 1 & 2	USA	1975	ORBITER/LANDER	SENT 50,000 PHOTOS, SAMPLE ANALYSES, SEARCHED FOR LIFE
PHOBOS 1	USSR	1988	ORBITER/LANDER	LOST IN SPACE
PHOBOS 2	USSR	1988	ORBITER/LANDER	LOST NEAR PHOBOS, SENT SOME DATA
MARS OBSERVER	USA	1992	ORBITER	LOST NEAR MARS
SURVEYOR	USA	1996	ORBITER	DUE AT MARS 9/97
MARS '96	RUSSIA	1996	ORBITER/LANDER	LOST DURING LAUNCH
PATHFINDER	USA	1996	LANDER	DUE AT MARS 7/97

Orbiter and lander missions are being designed for launch in 1998, 2001, 2003 and 2005. These spacecraft are intended to map rock and mineral compositions from orbit, explore the south pole and the ancient highlands, collect rock samples and return them to Earth. Human explores will surely follow. The first people to walk on Mars are probably in school today.

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Whether we know it or not, we are natural-born explorers. There are many reasons why we explore. From birth we learn about life and how it works by exploring. No one can be satisfied for very long without exploring. Whether you are talking to someone next to you or looking around the room, you are exploring!

Directions:

1. You and your team members are helping to finish the EXPLORE poster on the wall.
2. Each team has a paragraph indicating one of the different reasons why humans explore.
3. At the beginning of the paragraph there is a letter designated for your team. You will use this letter to start a sentence that summarizes your team's reason for exploring.
4. Think of a sentence that describes the ideas from your paragraph. It has to begin with the letter listed on the top of your paragraph! Write the sentence on the sentence strip.
5. Now make an illustration to go with your sentence and put it on the sentence strip. Be colorful.
6. Each student should make a copy of your team's sentence and illustration on the paper provided.
7. Place your team's sentence and illustration on the poster and share them with the class.
8. Copy each team's sentence and illustration as they add them to the poster.

Team Sentence: _____

