

Resource 2

Look at the resource below, which shares more information about Mars.

Mars

Mars is the fourth planet in the solar system from the Sun. It is also known as the 'Red Planet'. This is because of its colour, which comes from iron oxide (rust) in its rocks and soil.



Pictured above: planets orbiting the Sun

Mars has not been explored by people yet, but we know lots about it from orbiting spacecraft and sending robots. Rover robots move and landers stay in one place. Nasa has sent five rovers to Mars: Sojourner, Spirit, Opportunity, Curiosity and Perseverance.



Does any of the information surprise you?
What else would you like to find out about Mars?

Which planet on the picture above is Mars?
Can you name any of the other planets?



Mars Facts!

- Mars is the second smallest planet.
- At its equator, the temperature of Mars can reach 20°C but at its poles, it can drop as low as -140°C!
- Mars is home to the highest mountain in our solar system – Olympus Mons. It is three times higher than Mount Everest.
- Mars has two moons.
- A Mars year is 687 Earth days.