

Mars is a small, rocky planet. It is cold and lifeless. It is one of the closest planets to Earth. It travels around the sun just like our planet Earth. It also has volcanos like Earth, but the volcanos on Mars are much bigger. They can be one hundred times as large as the volcanos on Earth. Mars also has very strong winds and bad dust storms that can last for months.

**Spacecrafts** have been sent to Mars to learn more about it. The first one landed on Mars in 1976. A **spacecraft** called the Mars Pathfinder landed there in 1997. There were no people on these **spacecrafts**. Mars is **too** cold for humans to survive there.

Mars is known as the red planet because of its reddish color and pink, hazy sky. The Romans were the first to call the planet Mars. Mars was the name of their god of War. Why do you think the Romans chose that name?

Mars is a small, rocky planet. It is cold and lifeless. It is one of the closest planets to Earth. It travels around the sun just like our planet Earth. It also has volcanos like Earth, but the volcanos on Mars are much bigger. They can be one hundred times as large as the volcanos on Earth. Mars also has very strong winds and bad dust storms that can last for months.

**Spacecrafts** have been sent to Mars to learn more about it. The first one landed on Mars in 1976. A **spacecraft** called the Mars Pathfinder landed there in 1997. There were no people on these **spacecrafts**. Mars is **too** cold for humans to survive there.

Mars is known as the red planet because of its reddish color and pink, hazy sky. The Romans were the first to call the planet Mars. Mars was the name of their god of War. Why do you think the Romans chose that name?