



READING PASSAGE · LEVEL 1 · EMERGING

MARS: THE RED PLANET

A short reader for younger learners (Ages 6-8)

Mars is the planet next door to Earth. It is called the Red Planet because it looks red in the sky. The red colour comes from rusty dust. The dust is on the rocks, in the wind, and even in the sky.

Mars is smaller than Earth. It is much, much colder. On a warm day on Mars, it is still freezing!

Mars has two tiny moons called Phobos and Deimos. They look like big lumpy potatoes.

Right now, robots from Earth are driving around on Mars. They take photos and dig in the dirt. One day, people might go to Mars too. Would you like to visit?

★ WORDS TO KNOW 3 TERMS

rusty Covered in rust — the orange-red stuff that grows on old metal.	moon A small world that travels around a planet.	robot A machine that can do jobs by itself.
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★ COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS 4 QUESTIONS

1. What is another name for Mars?

2. Why does Mars look red?

3. How many moons does Mars have, and what are their names?

4. What are robots from Earth doing on Mars right now?

★ NOW YOU DRAW IT! Draw a picture of Mars below. Can you show its rusty red dust, its two moons, and a robot rover?