



Earth and Mars Comparison Activity

*Use as an introduction to Mars lessons

Have students match the descriptions to one of 4 headings on the wall:

- Earth
- Mars
- Both
- Neither

Students can tape the slips of paper to the wall, or they can take their slip of paper and stand under the heading on the wall.

Optional: Create a Venn Diagram for Earth and Mars, with an overlapping section in the middle. The "Neither" section can be placed next to and outside of the Venn Diagram.

You would weigh more on this planet.

This planet has less gravity.

It takes this planet 24 hours to rotate once.

This planet has at least one orbiting moon.

This planet is found in the Milky Way Galaxy.

This planet is the fourth from the sun.

This planet has an average temperature of 57°F.

The atmosphere on this planet is mostly CO₂.

This planet has an ionosphere that protects it from the sun.

This planet experiences four seasons.

This planet takes 687 days to orbit the sun.

This planet has a denser atmosphere.

This planet experiences weather.

This planet contains the highest peak in the galaxy, reaching 13.2 miles above sea level.

This planet is the smaller of the two planets.

This planet has polar ice caps.

This planet has a lot of iron in the soil.

This planet experiences significant dust storms that can last for months.

Little green people live here.

This planet is the farthest known planet from the sun.

Answer Key

Earth:

You would weigh more on this planet.

It takes this planet 24 hours to rotate once.

This planet has an average temperature of 57°F.

This planet has an ionosphere that protects it from the sun.

This planet has a denser atmosphere.

Mars:

This planet has less gravity.

This planet is the fourth from the sun.

The atmosphere on this planet is mostly CO₂.

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This planet contains the highest peak in the galaxy, reaching 13.2 miles above sea level.

This planet is the smaller of the two planets.

This planet has a lot of iron in the soil.

This planet experiences significant dust storms that can last for months.

Both:

This planet has at least one orbiting moon.

This planet is found in the Milky Way Galaxy.

This planet experiences four seasons.

This planet experiences weather.

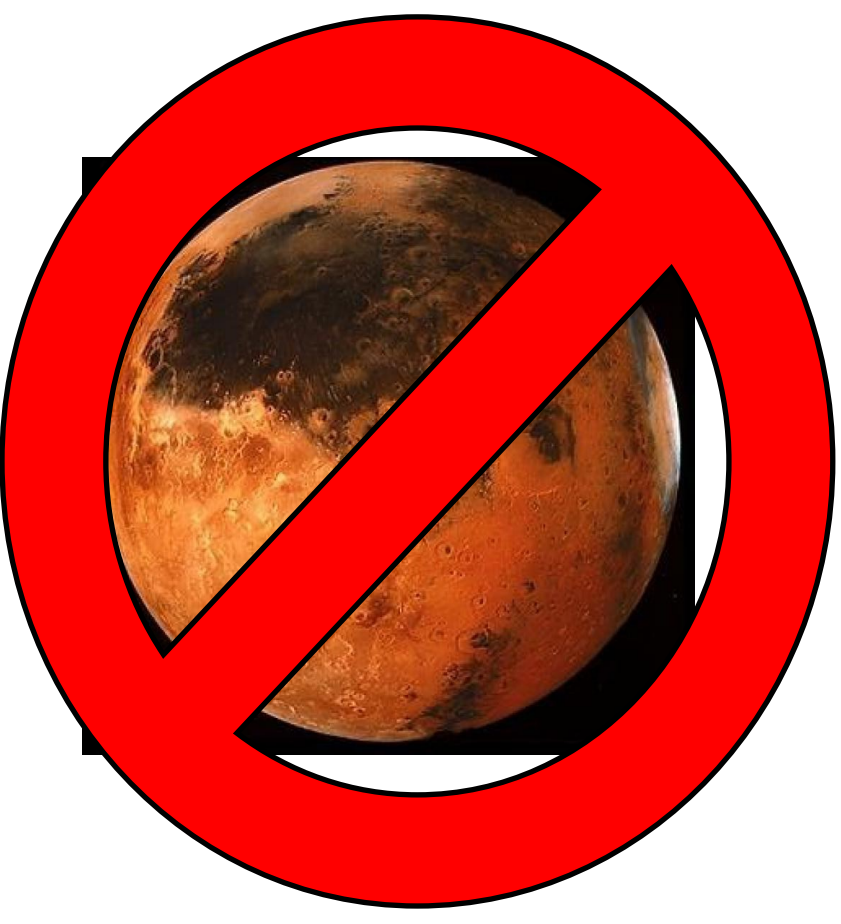
This planet has polar ice caps.

Neither:

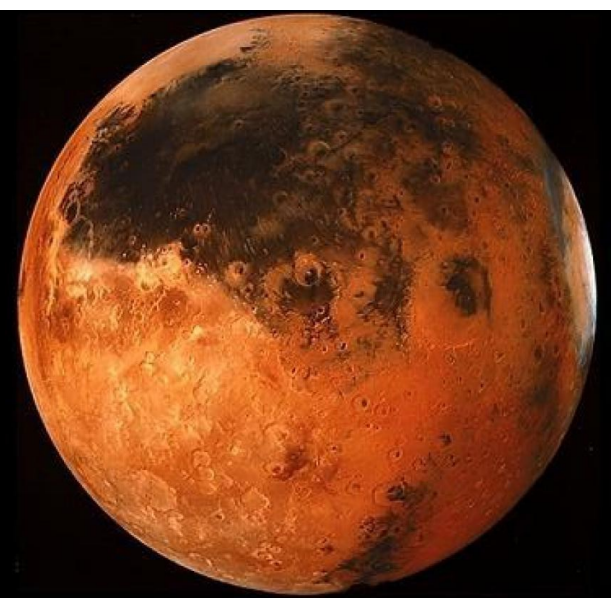
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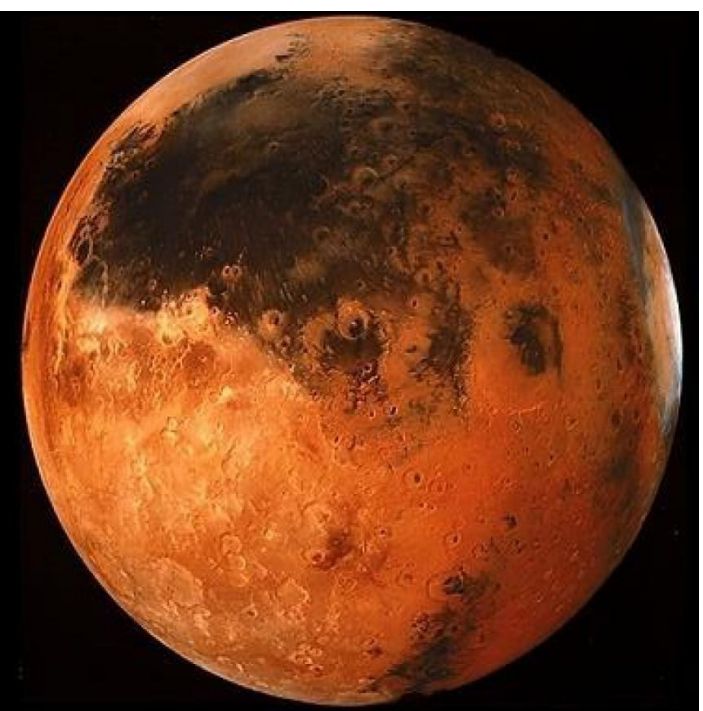
NEITHER.



BEFORE



Mars



Earth

