

Know Your Planets:

MARS!

This is a picture of Mars. Color in the cross-section drawing below using what you've learned.

Name:

Mars is named after the Roman god of war. It is sometimes called the "Red Planet".

Size:

Mars is the seventh largest planet. It is about half the size of Earth and slightly larger than Mercury.

What's It Made Of?:

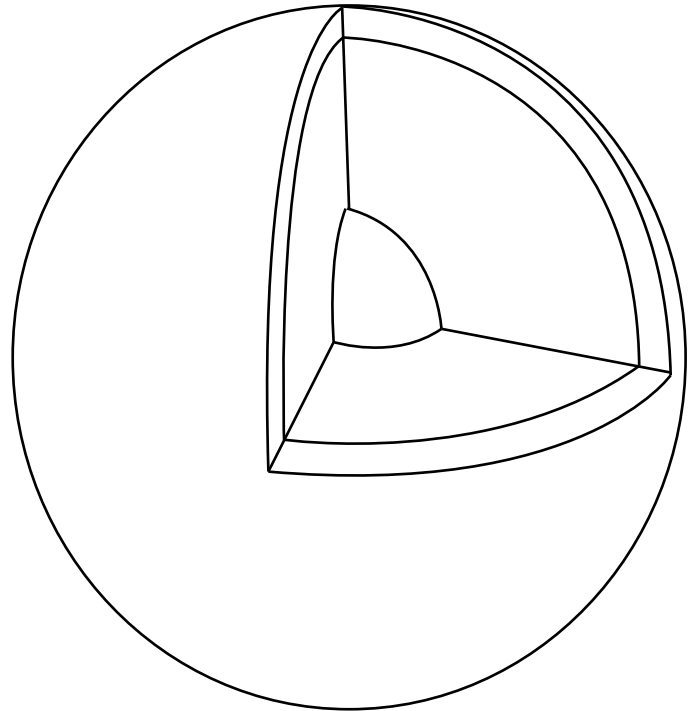
Mars is called a terrestrial planet, which means it is made mostly of rocks. The outer crust contains ice, soil, and rust, which is what makes it look red. The mantle is silicates and the core is iron.

Where Is It?:

Mars is the fourth planet from the sun and the fourth brightest object in the night sky. Earth and Mars are the only two planets that are the right distance away from the sun so that it is not too hot or too cold to support life.

Water and Ice:

At the north and south pole of Mars there are giant sheets of ice, called ice caps. Some scientists believe that there is water beneath the surface. There is evidence on the rocks that at one time there was liquid water on the surface.



Scrambles: Unscramble the words for the answer.

This part of Mars is very thin and is mostly carbon dioxide:

SOHMAPTREE
ATMOSPHERE

The seasons on Mars are most like this planet's:

TRAHE
EARTH

Rocks called this created the many craters on Mars:

ATIREOSD
ASTEROIDS