

Reading Comprehension Worksheet



Name: _____

Date: _____

Life on Mars

Is there life on Mars? This question has intrigued scientists for many years. Mars is the fourth planet from the Sun in our solar system. It is often called the "Red Planet" because of its reddish appearance. Unlike Earth, Mars has a very thin atmosphere and is much colder. Despite these harsh conditions, scientists continue to search for signs of life on Mars.

One reason scientists are interested in Mars is because it may have once had conditions suitable for life. Evidence suggests that Mars had liquid water on its surface long ago. Water is essential for life as we know it. Scientists have also found minerals on Mars that could have been formed by living organisms. These findings keep the hope alive that there may be microbial life on Mars, even if it is not as complex as life on Earth.

Exploring Mars is not easy. Several spacecraft have been sent to Mars to study its surface and atmosphere. Rovers like Curiosity have helped scientists learn more about the planet's geology and climate. These missions have provided valuable data, but the search for life on Mars continues. Scientists are planning future missions to dig deeper into the mysteries of the Red Planet.

Questions

1. Why is Mars often called the "Red Planet"?

2. What is one reason scientists are interested in Mars regarding the possibility of life?

3. How have rovers like Curiosity helped in the study of Mars?

4. Why is water important in the search for life on Mars?

5. What are scientists planning for the future in terms of exploring Mars?

Answer Key

1. Mars has a reddish appearance.
2. Mars may have had conditions suitable for life in the past.
3. Rovers like Curiosity have helped scientists learn more about Mars' geology and climate.
4. Water is essential for life as we know it.
5. Future missions to dig deeper into the mysteries of the Red Planet are being planned.