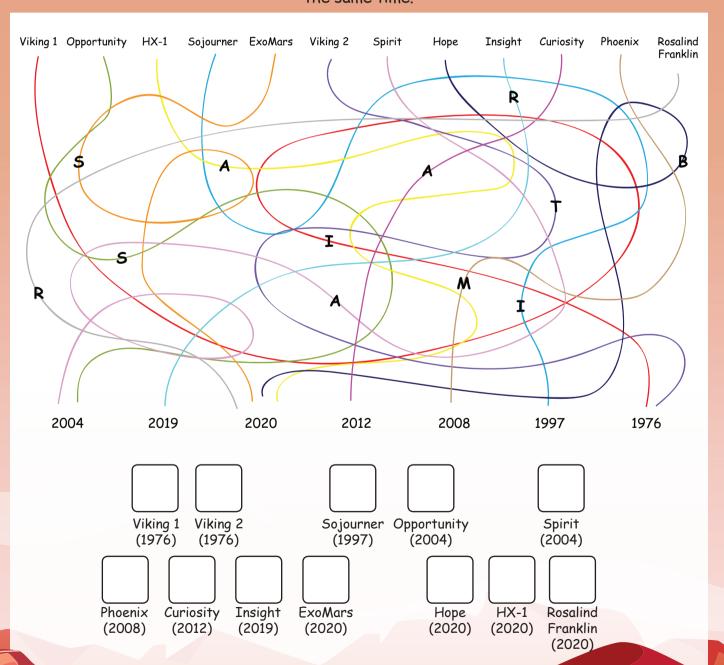
MARS FACTS AND FUN

Mars is the fourth planet from the Sun and the second-smallest planet in the Solar System after Mercury. Named after the Roman god of war, Ares while the ancient Egyptians named it "Her Dasher", meaning "the red one", while ancient Chinese astronomers called it "the fire star". It is often described as the "Red Planet" because the rock and dust covering its surface is rich in iron which gives it a reddish appearance.

Mars is a terrestrial planet with a thin atmosphere composed primarily of carbon dioxide. Its surface gravity is only 37% of that on Earth which mean a jump of 1 metre on Earth would be almost 3 metres on Mars.

There have been over 40 missions sent to Mars and the following rovers have been successful in landing and relaying information to Earth. Follow the lines to match each rover to the year it landed on Mars. Each line contains a letter and when placed in the boxes below you will find out an astronaut's favourite food. There is often more than 1 rover on Mars at the same time.



MARS RESEARCH

There have been over 40 missions sent to Mars and the following rovers have been successful in landing and relaying information to Earth. Choose 1 to research and answer the following questions. When searching online use the name of the rover, the year of its landing and the words Mars Rover ie. Spirit 2004 Mars Rover

Opportunity (2004)
Spirit (2004)
Rosalind Franklin (2020)
Viking 1 (1976)

HX-1 (2020)
Sojourner (1997)
Phoenix (2008)
Insight (2019)
ExoMArs (2020)

Viking 2 (1976)
Mars2020 (2020)
Curiosity (2012)
Hope (2020)

Which country launched the rover?

Where did it land on Mars?

What was its mission on Mars?

Was it successful in its mission?

Where is the rover now?

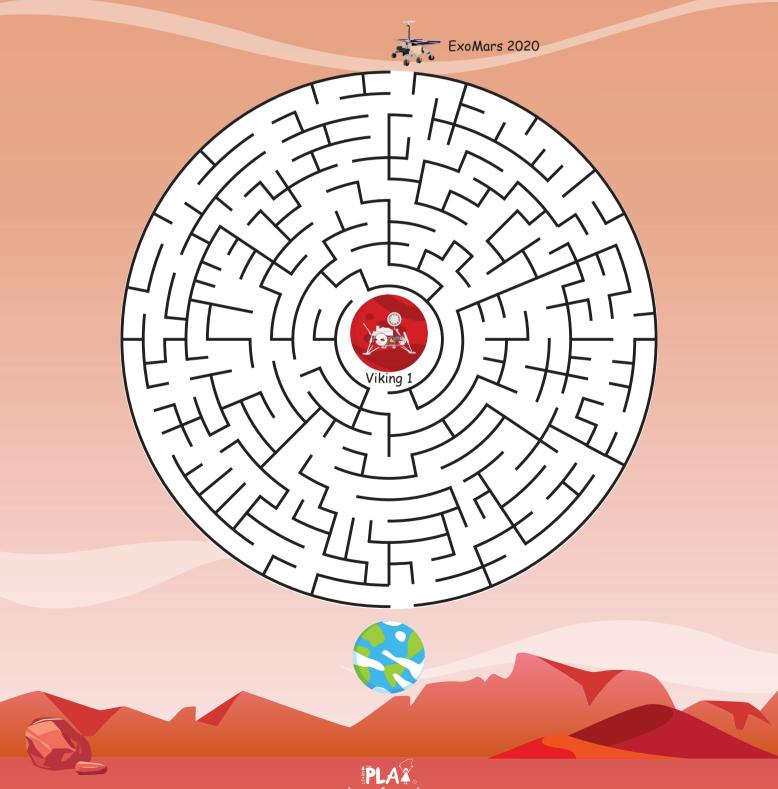
Do you think this was a worthwhile use of more than \$100,000 why or why not?

MARS FACTS AND FUN

Mars is the fourth planet from the Sun. It is called a "Red Planet" because there is lots of iron in the rock and dust covering it which makes it look red.

Mar's gravity is only 37% of that on Earth. This mean a jump of 1 metre on Earth is almost 3 metres on Mars.

Humans have sent over 40 rockets to Mars and 10 rovers have landing and sent information back to Earth. See if you can help the ExoMars 2020 rover get from Earth to Mars and the Viking 1 get back from Mars to Earth in the maze below.



MARS Answer Sheet

