# Robot Explorers on Mars

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# Quizzes

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## Article 1: A Soft Landing

### Comprehension Questions

**1.** How did the NASA team plan to slow down the rovers as they fell toward the surface of Mars?

**a.** The NASA team planned to use a robot to slow the rovers down.

**b.** The NASA team planned to use parachutes to slow the rovers down.

**c.** The NASA team planned to fire a rocket to slow the rovers down.

**d.** The NASA team planned to send a scientist to Mars to slow the rovers down.

**2.** What happened during testing that shocked the team?

**a.** A skydiver's parachute ripped to shreds.

**b.** The airbags did not pass the test in the wind tunnel.

**c.** A NASA scientist was killed.

**d.** The airbags split open as they bounced onto the ground.

### Vocabulary Questions

**1.** NASA was started by the United States government to study and explore _____.

**a.** space

**b.** machines

**c.** rovers

**d.** airplanes

**2.** The robots were called _____ because they were built to move across the surface of Mars.

**a.** monkeys

**b.** rovers

**c.** rockets

**d.** dogs

## Article 2: Working in Mars Time

### Comprehension Questions

**1.** How long is a day on Mars?

- **a.** The same as a day on Earth.
- **b.** About 40 minutes.
- **c.** Each day is longer than the day before.
- **d.** 24 hours and 39.5 minutes.

**2.** Why did one rover wake up when the other rover went to sleep?

- **a.** Because the rover teams took turns sleeping.
- **b.** Because the scientists wanted to save on power.
- **c.** Because the rovers were working on opposite sides of the planet.
- **d.** Because the scientists could only test one rover at a time.

### Vocabulary Questions

**1.** When a planet spins all the way around once, we say it completes one _____.

- **a.** Solar System
- **b.** opportunity
- **c.** rotation
- **d.** minute

**2.** _____ is made up of our Sun, the planets and their moons, and other objects.

- **a.** NASA
- **b.** The Solar System
- **c.** The rover team
- **d.** Daytime

## Article 3: The Rovers at Work

### Comprehension Questions

**1.** How did the rovers spend their days on Mars?

**a.** The rovers made one rotation each day.

**b.** The rovers went to sleep during the day and worked at night.

**c.** The rovers used airbags to bounce along the surface of Mars every morning.

**d.** The rovers used tools to study the rocks and soil on Mars.

**2.** How did NASA scientists talk to the rovers?

**a.** The scientists used solar panels to talk to the rovers.

**b.** The scientists sent radio signals to a satellite dish.

**c.** The scientists used a computer to "shoot and scoot."

**d.** The scientists waited for the rovers to talk first.

### Vocabulary Questions

**1.** NASA scientists used the rovers to look around and gather _____.

**a.** water

**b.** living things

**c.** data

**d.** shreds

**2.** Many buildings today get electric power from _____.

**a.** solar panels

**b.** radio signals

**c.** satellites

**d.** spacecraft

## Article 4: Keeping the Rovers Going

### Comprehension Questions

**1.** When Spirit had a bad wheel, how did the rover team figure out what to do?

**a.** The team taught a test rover how to drive without the bad wheel.

**b.** The team drove Spirit backwards.

**c.** The team stopped Spirit and used Opportunity.

**d.** The team sent a signal and told Spirit to drop the bad wheel.

**2.** Why was the team worried about sending Opportunity down a steep hill?

**a.** Because Opportunity only had 5 wheels that still worked.

**b.** Because Opportunity had very little power.

**c.** Because there might be water at the bottom of the hill.

**d.** Because Opportunity might get stuck in a crater and never get out.

### Vocabulary Questions

**1.** A _____ is a hole in the ground that is shaped like a bowl.

**a.** rotation

**b.** cliff

**c.** shred

**d.** crater

**2.** The rover engineers took a big _____ when they decided to send Opportunity down a steep hill.

**a.** photo

**b.** rotation

**c.** risk

**d.** scientist