

Prize Winner

Science Writing Year R-2

Anna Luo

St Andrew's School

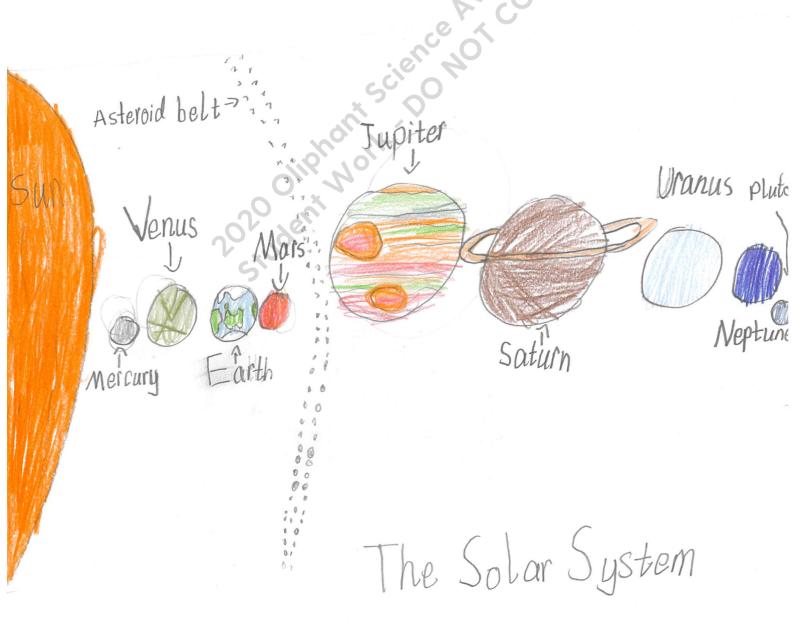




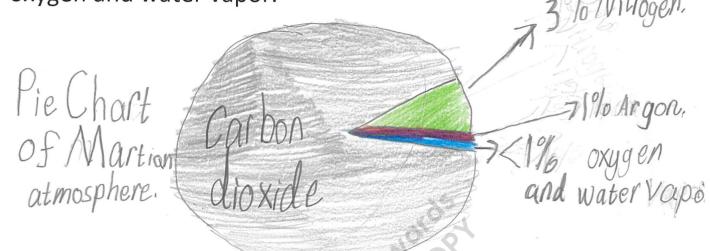


Living on Mars

In the Solar System, Mars is the fourth planet nearest to the Sun and is the most Earth-like Planet. Mars is made of rocks and metals, so it has a solid ground. Mars' average temperature is around -63°C and its maximum temperature is 20°C. Mars has less gravity than Earth. People need air, water, shelter, food, and energy to survive on Mars.



Mars has a very thin atmosphere. Most of the gas in the atmosphere is carbon dioxide, and less than 1% of oxygen and water vapor.



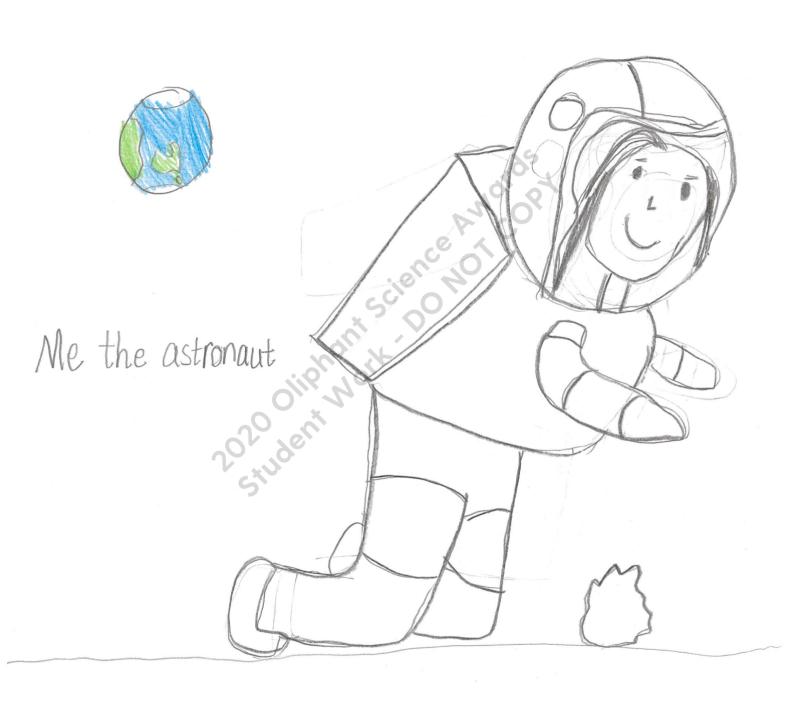
On Mars it never rains or snows, but there are lots of ice underground, mostly found at the poles of Mars. We can melt ice on Mars to get oxygen and water.



Greenhouses can be built from ice, which will protect us from extreme weather and space radiation. Plants can grow in greenhouses. Scientists found most important nutrients that plants need can come from Martian air and rocks. Energy can be brought from the Sun by Solar panels.



Since 1957 people have sent more than 40 satellites and rovers to explore Mars, some failed. When I grow up, I would like to be an astronaut and fly to Mars.



Bibliography

- 1. Edson, S., Sparrow, G., and Ruffle, M. *Mars: Explore the mysteries of the Red Planet.* London: Penguin Random House, 2020.
- 2. Aldrin, B., and Dyson, J. M. *Welcome to Mars: Making a Home on The Red Planet.* Washington, DC: National Geographic Society, 2015.
- 3. Morgan, B., et al., eds. *The Planets: The Definitive Visual Guide to Our Solar System*. New York: DK Publishing, 2017.
- 4. Sparrow, G. Red Planet: Discover Mars through the Stunning Images from Curiosity. Hove: Quintet Publishing Limited, 2015.
- 5. Harland, M. D. Mars: From 4.5 Billion Years Ago to the Present. Somerset: Haynes Publishing, 2018.
- 6. Bone, E. *The Solar System*. London: Usborne House, 2010.
- 7. Daynes, K. Living in Space. London: Usborne House, 2002.
- 8. Pratt, L. Planet Earth. London: Usborne House, 2007.