



NASA IS PREPARING TO LAND THE MARS ROVER NAMED "CURIOSITY"!

Below are some ways to bring Curiosity into your events this summer or on the night of the landing

Sunday, August, 5th 2012:

10:31 PM Pacific
11:31 PM Mountain

Monday, August 6:

12:31 AM Central
1:31 AM Eastern
5:31 AM UTC

MARS GAZING: HOST AN EVENT FOR YOUR VISITORS TO VIEW MARS IN THE NIGHT SKY PRIOR TO THE CURIOSITY ROVER LANDING! Submit your events at www.nasa.gov/mars

On August 5th 2012, viewers can observe Mars in the night sky with a telescope or with the naked eye. At sunset, Mars will sit low in the western sky just above the horizon. Viewers will be able to see the orange planet Mars in between Saturn and the bright star Spica. At this point in its orbit, Mars will be roughly 300 million miles away from Earth and the Curiosity Rover will be only hours away from arriving to this distant orange dot in the night sky.

MARS : AN OVERVIEW

Basic Information on Mars

<http://solarsystem.nasa.gov/planets/profile.cfm?Object=Mars>

Mars Image Collection

<http://mars.jpl.nasa.gov/multimedia/images/>

3D Images

<http://mars3d.jpl.nasa.gov/>



CURIOSITY ROVER LANDING LOCATION

Destination Gale Crater: August 5, 2012 at 10:31 pm PT

<http://mars.jpl.nasa.gov/msl/multimedia/images/?ImageID=3852>

Gale's Mount Sharp Compared to Three Big Mountains on Earth

http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/msl/multimedia/pia15292-Fig2.html

National Parks as Mars Analog Sites

<http://www.nps.gov/deva/parknews/mars-and-mojave.htm>



VIDEOS

Seven Minutes of Terror

<http://mars.jpl.nasa.gov/msl/multimedia/videos/index.cfm?v=49>

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Official Websites

<http://www.nasa.gov/mars>

<http://mars.jpl.nasa.gov>

Using NASA Imagery Guidelines

http://www.nasa.gov/audience/formedia/features/MP_Photo_Guidelines.html

TUNE IN TO LIVE COVERAGE OF THE CURIOSITY ROVER LANDING

NASA Media Services Information for Curiosity Rover Landing on 8/5/2012

Landing Coverage begins at 12:00 a.m. EST (9:00 p.m. PST) on the following media outlets:

- **NASA TV Cable Channel:**

<http://www.nasa.gov/multimedia/nasatv>

- **Multimedia Information**

Explore the Solar System. Change Time and Space with Real Science Data! <http://solarsystem.nasa.gov/eyes>

Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/marscuriosity>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/marscuriosity>

PRE LANDING HANDS- ON SCIENCE ACTIVITIES

Lesson plans and training are available for those who would like to participate in the following hands-on science activities:

All activities will be available for download at the following website.

<http://mars.jpl.nasa.gov/participate/marsforeducators/soj/>

Short 1-3 Hour Activities:

Earth and Mars as a Place for Life: Students construct scale models of Earth, Moon, & Mars to discover size and scale. Associated Mars Information Slideshow: Through a PowerPoint Presentation, students learn about the environmental constraints that would affect human habitation of Mars

Soda Straw Rockets: By building rockets out of simple drinking straws, students investigate how variations in a rocket's nose cone influences distance of flight.

Marsbound: By playing an interactive card game, students create a mission that balances science return with mission constraints.

Strange, New Planet: This hands-on lesson using play dough engages students in the way in which humans explore planets through a variety of missions from Earth-based telescopes to rovers.

Lava Layering: By creating models of lava flows with play dough, students analyze the layers that form on a planet to understand its history.