

MARS



- Mars is the fourth planet from the Sun in the Solar System. The planet is named after the Roman god of war, Mars. Mars can easily be seen from Earth with the naked eye.
- It is often described as the "Red Planet", as the iron oxide prevalent on its surface gives it a reddish appearance.



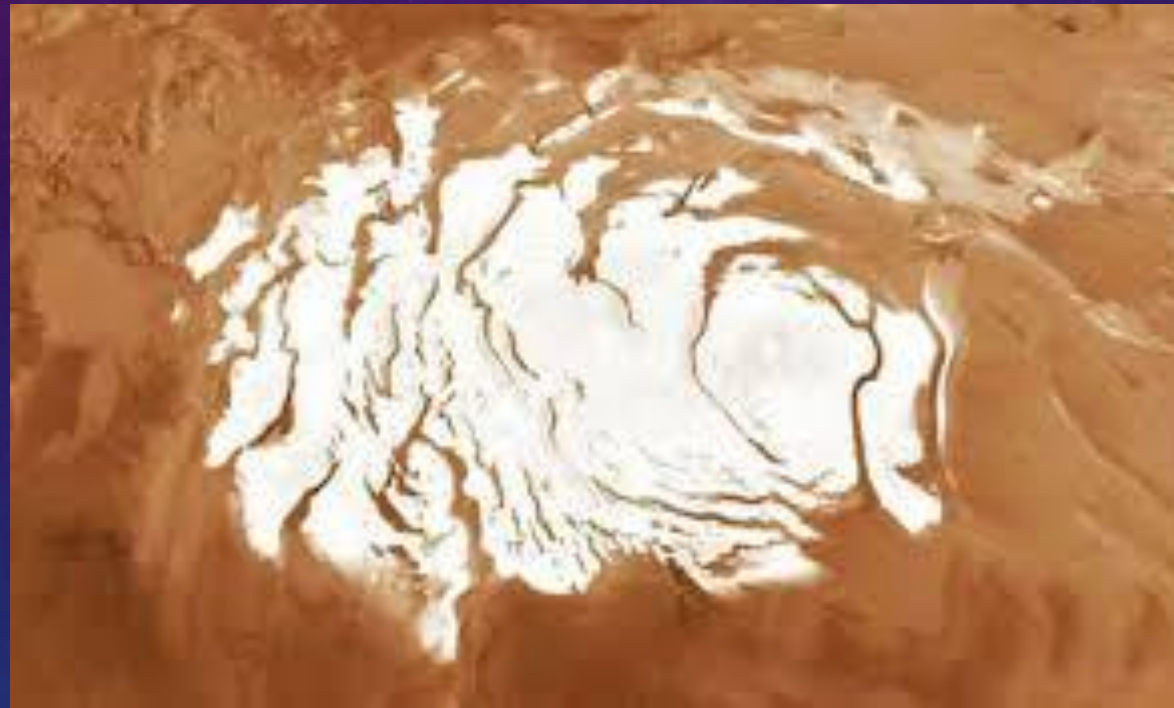
MARS IS A TERRESTRIAL PLANET WITH A THIN ATMOSPHERE, HAVING SURFACE FEATURES REMINISCENT BOTH OF THE IMPACT CRATERS OF THE MOON AND THE VOLCANOES, VALLEYS, DESERTS, AND POLAR ICE CAPS OF EARTH.



MARS HAS TWO MOONS, PHOBOS AND DEIMOS, WHICH ARE SMALL AND IRREGULARLY SHAPED. THESE MAY BE CAPTURED ASTEROIDS. MARS HAS APPROXIMATELY HALF THE RADIUS OF EARTH. ITS SURFACE AREA IS ONLY SLIGHTLY LESS THAN THE TOTAL AREA OF EARTH'S DRY LAND.



THE WIDE RANGE IN TEMPERATURES IS DUE TO THE THIN ATMOSPHERE WHICH CANNOT STORE MUCH SOLAR HEAT, THE LOW ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE, AND THE LOW THERMAL INERTIA OF MARTIAN SOIL.



MARS ALSO HAS THE LARGEST DUST STORMS IN OUR SOLAR SYSTEM. THESE CAN VARY FROM A STORM OVER A SMALL AREA, TO GIGANTIC STORMS THAT COVER THE ENTIRE PLANET.



THANKS FOR ATTENTION!