



Mars and Earth

Out of all the planets, Mars is the most like Earth. A day on Mars lasts 24 hours, 37 minutes - just a little more than a day on Earth. Both Mars and Earth have the seasons of summer and winter. Earth, of course, also has spring and fall.

Earth and Mars are both land (terrestrial) planets. They have a dense metal core, with a mantle and crust above it. Both Mars and Earth have volcanoes and canyons.

If you melted all the ice on Mars, scientists believe Mars would be covered with an ocean just like Earth is. Scientists believe Mars used to have liquid water, in the form of oceans and rivers.

There are some differences between Earth and Mars. A year on Mars lasts 687 Earth days instead of our 365 days on Earth. The average temperature on Mars is -81°F , and at night in winter it can reach -190°F ! The atmosphere on Mars contains no oxygen, so you'd need a space suit to breathe there.