Sky View Detectives

Compare the Moon and Mars from three views

E.2.8.3 "Observe and compare the details in images of the moon and planets using the perspective of the naked eye, telescopes, and data from space exploration."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one detail about each place seen without a tool, circle one detail about each place seen with a telescope, and draw a box around one detail about each place shown by spacecraft pictures.

A Closer Look

1. On a clear night, look at the Moon and Mars without a tool. The Moon looks like a bright, round shape. Sometimes only part of it looks bright. Mars looks like a tiny reddish point. You cannot see rocks on either one.
2. A telescope makes faraway things look larger. Through a telescope, you can see round dents called craters on the Moon. With a strong telescope, Mars looks like a small disk, not just a point. Its surface details are harder to see than the Moon's.
3. Spacecraft can take close pictures. Pictures from a Moon lander show gray dust and rocks on the ground. Pictures from a robot on Mars show reddish dust and rocks. These close views let us compare the two places in ways our eyes alone cannot.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Without a tool, how does the Moon look different from Mars?

2. What can a telescope show on the Moon? How does Mars look through a strong telescope?

3. What do spacecraft pictures show about the ground on the Moon and Mars? Tell how the two places are alike and different.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

A friend sees Mars as a tiny reddish point and says, “I can see rocks on Mars!” Write two sentences explaining why your friend cannot see rocks with just their eyes and how they could learn what Mars rocks look like.

ANSWER KEY

Sky View Detectives

GRADE 2 · E.2.8.3

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one detail about each place seen without a tool, circle one detail about each place seen with a telescope, and draw a box around one detail about each place shown by spacecraft pictures. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Without a tool, how does the Moon look different from Mars?	**The Moon looks like a bright, round shape, but Mars looks like a tiny reddish point.**
2	What can a telescope show on the Moon? How does Mars look through a strong telescope?	**A telescope can show craters on the Moon. Mars looks like a small disk through a strong telescope.**
3	What do spacecraft pictures show about the ground on the Moon and Mars? Tell how the two places are alike and different.	**Both have dust and rocks. The Moon's dust is gray, while Mars's dust is reddish.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Mars looks like a tiny point from Earth, so our eyes cannot see its rocks. Pictures taken by a robot on Mars can show the rocks up close.

For the marking job, accept any accurate detail for each place from each view. For Your Turn, look for both a limit of the naked-eye view and a way spacecraft pictures help.