

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



## Mars Math Challenges

Every once in a while, Mars gets really close to Earth. As a matter of fact, on August 27<sup>th</sup>, it was only 37,000,000 miles away- well, that's still pretty far, but it is really close when you realize that Mars is usually 49,000,000 miles from Earth. How much closer to Earth was Mars on August 27<sup>th</sup> than it usually is?

The Mars rover, Spirit weighs 341 pounds on Mars, however, at the time of its launch from Earth, before all the rockets and parachutes dropped off, it weighed 2,641 pounds! How much lighter was Spirit when it arrived on Mars?

The Mars rovers traveled through space at 12,000 miles per hour. It is 3,000 miles across the United States of America. How many times could a Mars Rover cross the entire United States of America in one hour?

**Extra Challenge:** A year on Mars is 26 months long. How many years old would you be if you lived on Mars? (hint: find out how many months old you are on Earth first)