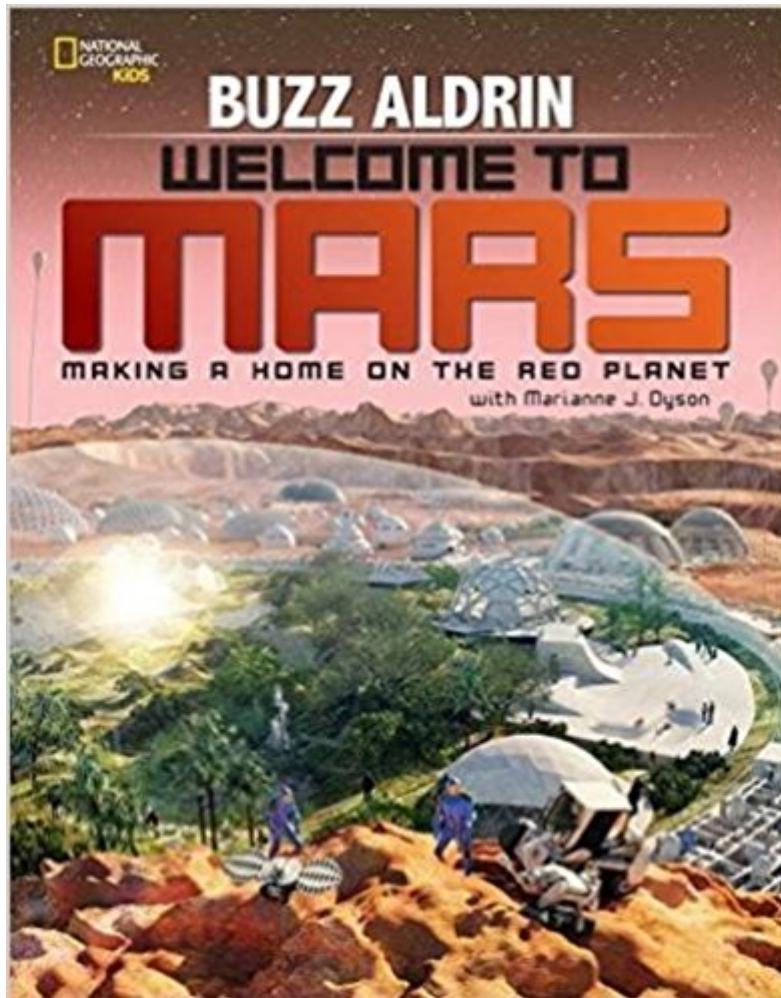




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Welcome To Mars: Making A Home On The Red Planet



Synopsis

Space is still the final frontier and Mars continues to make news and attract generations of young people. In this fascinating book, hero-astronaut Buzz Aldrin challenges curious kids to think about Mars as not just a faraway red planet but as a possible future home for Earthlings! What will your new home be like? How will you get there? What will you eat for breakfast? Find out what life might be like far, far from Earth as you navigate your way through this fun and fascinating book. What kid wouldn't want to blast off with him on this (literary) journey!

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 900 (What's this?)

Hardcover: 96 pages

Publisher: National Geographic Children's Books (September 1, 2015)

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ISBN-10: 1426322062

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Product Dimensions: 7.9 x 0.5 x 10.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars See all reviews (26 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #198,675 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #80 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Astronomy & Space > Aeronautics & Space #114 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Astronomy & Space > Astronomy #3041 in Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

Mars has been getting a lot of attention recently, relatively speaking, and the movie "The Martian" premiering 2 October will probably stimulate more. "Welcome to Mars" by Buzz Aldrin and Marianne Dyson is a welcome insight into what happens after the first hesitant steps composed of photo ops and exploration. "Welcome to Mars" goes far beyond what will be required for one trip to Mars and enters the realm of becoming permanent settlers and building a life there. Okay, admittedly I am biased, given that all of my books are concerned with the long-term settlement of Mars. The Earth-Mars Chronicles: Hope for Humanity However, I contend that having a vision for the future is the most important and powerful stimulate available when it comes to

tackling seemingly overwhelming problems. That is another thing that I appreciate in this book; the problems and challenges are not swept away with a simple “that is just an engineering detail.”

Quoting from the first sentence of the first paragraph on page 74, “To put it bluntly, the surface of Mars is deadly.” I like it.

Marianne Dyson is an accomplished author in multiple fields, especially those that bring science and space to young people in a fun yet challenging fashion. Her work in “Welcome to Mars” is excellent. Buzz Aldrin is well known for his position on Mars exploration and settlement, and, in some circles, for his enthusiastic promotion of the “Aldrin Cyclers” concept. He and Ms. Dyson break the fundamentals down to very understandable descriptive language and graphics, but that is only one of dozens of concepts well presented.

Welcome to Mars: Making a Home on the Red Planet is co-authored by famous astronaut, Buzz Aldrin who is a strong advocate for space exploration, and Marianne Dyson, who is an award-winning author and former NASA flight controller. In short | these are the experts and they make a very compelling case for the possibility of living on Mars in the future. This book will stretch the imagination of young minds – the future thinkers and explorers.

The book begins with a description of the tools for space exploration (i.e., space crafts, space rovers, and more) followed by a discussion of the history of Martian exploration and a presentation of what we already know about the “Red Planet.” The book even contains a topographical map of Mars – it’s just incredible!

The second half of the book is dedicated to using our imagination to think about what living on Mars would look like and some of the issues we would need to address for it to be habitable. For example, there is no breathable air, it is extremely cold, there is no free-running water, no vegetation, no rain, and far less gravity than Earth (does this mean I would be “lighter”?)

There are a series of crisp photographs, groovy illustrations, and even some dioramas depicting things such as high-tech space suits, the dusty rust-colored Martian landscape, and tripped-out bio-domes containing all that is needed to live comfortably. The cynic in me is converting to the idea that it may indeed be possible to live on Mars!

My Bottom Line: Welcome to Mars: Making a Home on the Red Planet features an eye-catching collection of photographs and illustrations and is full of the latest science-based information about Mars, space travel, and more.

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