

ALIEN RESCUE: SCIENCE TOPICS

EXAMPLE SOLUTIONS

Pick four of the topics listed here and write what you know about them. Make sure you write at least two or three sentences about each. Continue on the back of this sheet.

Temperature scales

Craters

Gravity

Seismic Activity

Atmospheres

Magnetic Fields

Temperature scales: There are three temperature scales: Fahrenheit,

Celsius, and Kelvin. In the Celsius scale, water freezes at 0 degrees and

boils at 100 degrees. In the Kelvin scale, zero stands for absolute zero, the

point where molecules stop moving. To change Celsius to Kelvin, add 273.

Craters: Craters are formed when a meteorite hits the ground.

Atmospheres, liquid water, and volcanic eruptions can fill in craters. If a

world has a lot of craters, it means that its surface has not changed in

millions of years. We can conclude that those worlds don't have

atmospheres, liquid water, or active volcanoes.

Name_____

Class Period_____

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WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

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Gravity : Gravity is a force. The more mass an object has, the greater its

gravity. If we go to a world with less gravity than we are used to we can

jump higher and move more easily than on Earth. We would also weigh

less. If we went to a world with higher gravity, we would find it difficult to

move.

Seismic Activity : If a world has a liquid core and a hard surface, then

pressure can build up, and this can make the surface shake. The result is

earthquakes. Volcanoes are also the result of seismic activity.

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Atmospheres: An atmosphere is a blanket of gases that surrounds a world.

Atmospheres can be made up of many different types of gases, and the

atmospheres of other worlds are different from Earth's. A barometer can be

used to measure the atmospheric pressure. Small worlds, like Phobos and

Deimos, don't have enough gravity to hold onto an atmosphere.

Magnetic Fields: If a world has a liquid metallic core, then it creates a

magnetic field around that world. A magnetic field can protect a world from

the solar wind. The solar wind is made up of particles blown off of the sun.

If Earth did not have a magnetic field, life would not be possible because

of the solar wind.