

V6 - Experiment Procedure “Martian Red”

GENERAL INFORMATION

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SHORT EXPERIMENT DESCRIPTION

Experiment over the course of a few days. Make your own red Martian soil by using iron filings or some steel wool, placing those in some sand and keeping everything moist. Watch how the sand turns red

HARDWARE CHECKLIST

	Water
	Plain steel wool pads (2-3 per groups)
	Pen and paper
	Light colored sand
	Small plastic containers

PROCEDURE

MARTIAN RED

Step	Action	NOTES	Duration	Check
1	Distribute a small container filled with sand to each student group.		5 min.	
2	Give each group 2-3 pads of steel wool	Instruct students to pull the pads apart into smaller pieces for better mixing with the sand.	2 min.	
3	Pour enough water into each container to make the sand and steel wool mixture damp.	Ensure there's no standing water on top of the mix.	5 min.	
4	Instruct students to observe the mixture over the next 3 days. They should record changes in color, texture, or other noticeable transformations at regular intervals (e.g., every 12 hours).		3 days	

PROCEDURE “MARTIAN RED”

NOTES

- Ensure containers are kept in a safe location to avoid spills or contamination.
- Encourage students to hypothesize about the changes they expect to see and compare their observations to their predictions.
- Highlight the connection to Mars: The red color of Martian soil results from the oxidation of iron, similar to the process occurring in this experiment.