

Life on Mars? – Glossary

alien noun [count]

a creature from another planet

atmosphere noun [singular]

the air round the Earth or round another planet:

The Earth's atmosphere is getting warmer.

base noun [count]

a place from which an activity can be planned, started, or carried out:

Hikers find this a convenient base for their mountain expeditions.

climate noun [count or uncount]

the climate of a country or region is the type of weather it has:

Mexico is renowned for its hot climate and spicy food.

creature noun [count]

anything that lives except plants:

a small furry creature

equipment noun [uncount]

the tools, machines, or other things that you need for a particular job or activity:

A computer is the most important piece of equipment you will buy.

experiment noun [count]

a scientific test to find out what happens to someone or something in particular conditions:

laboratory experiments

extraterrestrial adjective

existing on planets other than Earth

feed verb

to provide a supply of something for a person or a machine:

He's been feeding the police with information about terrorist activities.

hostile adjective

behaving in a very unfriendly or threatening way

invade verb

to enter a place, especially in large numbers or in a way that causes problems:

The town is invaded by tourists every summer.

organism noun [count]

a living thing

outsider noun [count]

someone who does not belong to a particular group

perform verb

to complete an action or activity:

He's a surgeon who has performed many heart transplant operations.

recur verb

to happen again, once or several times

reddish adjective

similar to red

remote control noun [uncount]

a system of controlling a machine or a vehicle from a distance

rocky adjective

covered with rocks, or made of rock

science fiction noun [uncount]

books and films about imaginary future events that often include space travel and creatures from other planets

slightly adverb

a little:

I feel slightly better today.

spacecraft noun [count]

a vehicle that can travel in space

surface noun [count]

the top layer or outside part of something:

Road surfaces are slippery from the rain.

telescope noun [count]

a piece of equipment shaped like a tube that you use to make distant objects look closer and larger

the naked eye phrase

if you can see something with the naked eye, you can see it without using an instrument such as a telescope or a microscope

threaten verb

to be likely to harm or destroy something:

Nearly 1,000 of the world's bird species are threatened with extinction.

wonder verb

to think about something because you want to know more facts, or because you are worried:

I was wondering about the best place for a holiday.