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# NASA's Curiosity Rover Examines Martian Honeycomb Structures

## Description

NASA's Curiosity Rover found strange polygon-shaped structures on Mars. These shapes look like a honeycomb. The rover discovered them while exploring a new area.

Curiosity went to this area after scientists saw images from a satellite called the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter. The images showed a light and smooth surface. However, when Curiosity arrived, it saw many different shapes.

Scientists compared these shapes to a honeycomb. Similar shapes occur in nature. For example, the Giant's Causeway in Northern Ireland has many interlocking columns that look alike. Curiosity has found similar features before.

The rover also found dark rocks in the area. Some of these might be meteorites. Meteorites are stones that come from space. They usually contain nickel, which is rare in Martian rocks.

Curiosity is still studying this unique area. It will look at other features nearby, like a place called Miraflores butte. The rover hopes to learn more about these interesting shapes and the dark rocks.

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## Vocabulary List:

1. **honeycomb** //ˈhʌni,kɒm// (noun): a structure with many connected small cells
2. **satellite** //ˈsætəlaɪt// (noun): a machine sent into space to take pictures
3. **surface** //ˈsɜːfɪs// (noun): the outside or top part of something
4. **interlocking** //,ɪntərˈlɒkɪŋ// (adjective): fitting together like connected pieces or parts
5. **meteorites** //ˈmiːtiə,rɪts// (noun): stones from space that reach a planet
6. **nickel** //ˈnɪkəl// (noun): a hard, gray metal found in some rocks

## Comprehension Questions

### Multiple Choice

1. What did NASA's Curiosity Rover discover on Mars?

Option: Polygon-shaped structures

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- Option: Water in liquid form
- Option: Evidence of life
- Option: Giant footprints

2. Which satellite provided images that led Curiosity to the new area?

- Option: Hubble Space Telescope
- Option: Mars Rover
- Option: Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter
- Option: Voyager 1

3. What similar natural formation is compared to the shapes found by Curiosity?

- Option: The Grand Canyon
- Option: Giant's Causeway
- Option: Mount Everest
- Option: Antarctica Icebergs

4. What kind of rocks did Curiosity find in the area?

- Option: Igneous rocks
- Option: Dark rocks
- Option: Sandstones
- Option: Metamorphic rocks

5. What is a characteristic of meteorites mentioned in the text?

- Option: They are mainly composed of iron
- Option: They usually contain nickel
- Option: They originate from asteroids
- Option: They have high levels of oxygen

6. What feature is Curiosity expected to study next?

- Option: Olympus Mons
- Option: Miraflores butte
- Option: Valles Marineris
- Option: Hellas Planitia

### True-False

7. Curiosity Rover discovered honeycomb-like structures on its first mission.



8. The images from the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter showed a rough surface.
9. Meteorites are stones that come from space.
10. Curiosity found the shapes and dark rocks in the same area.
11. The structures discovered by Curiosity are unique to Mars.
12. Curiosity has never found similar features before.

### Gap-Fill

13. NASA's Curiosity Rover found strange polygon-shaped structures on Mars that look like a \_\_\_\_\_.
14. Curiosity went to this area after scientists saw images from a satellite called the \_\_\_\_\_.
15. The rover found dark rocks, some of which might be \_\_\_\_\_.
16. Meteorites usually contain \_\_\_\_\_ which is rare in Martian rocks.
17. Curiosity will look at other features nearby, like a place called \_\_\_\_\_.
18. Curiosity is still studying this unique area to learn more about the interesting shapes and the \_\_\_\_\_ rocks.

### Answer

**Multiple Choice:** 1. Polygon-shaped structures 2. Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter 3. Giant's Causeway 4. Dark rocks 5. They usually contain nickel 6. Miraflores butte  
**True-False:** 7. False 8. False 9. True 10. True 11. False 12. False  
**Gap-Fill:** 13. honeycomb 14. Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter 15. meteorites 16. nickel 17. Miraflores butte 18. dark

### CATEGORY

1. Sci/Tech - LEVEL1



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