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# NASA's Psyche Spacecraft Reveals New Insights on Familiar World

## Description

NASA's Psyche spacecraft got close to Mars. This happened on May 15, 2026. It took photos of the planet from a special angle. Mars looked like a thin crescent shape. Dust clouds were visible above its surface.

Psyche's cameras took many pictures of Mars' southern ice cap. Jim Bell, a scientist at Arizona State University, leads the team that uses these cameras. He said they will help scientists learn about the cameras' performance.

Psyche's instruments might have noticed the solar wind. This is a flow of charged particles from the Sun. It may have interacted with Mars' atmosphere. The spacecraft also measured the chemical makeup of the Martian surface.

Many other missions study Mars now. This means there may not be big surprises in Psyche's data. However, scientists will use Psyche's photos with older Mars data to improve their understanding.

The Psyche mission will truly shine in three years. The spacecraft will approach asteroid Psyche. This asteroid is large and rich in metals. Scientists want to learn more about it. The spacecraft will have plenty of time to study it.

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## Vocabulary List:

1. **crescent** //ˈkresənt// (noun): a thin curved shape like part of a circle
2. **instruments** //ˈɪnstrəmənts// (noun): tools used for measuring or taking pictures
3. **charged** //tʃɑːdʒd// (adjective): having a positive or negative electrical charge
4. **atmosphere** //ˈætməsfɪr// (noun): the layer of gases around a planet
5. **interacted** //ˌɪntərˈæktɪd// (verb): acted together or affected each other
6. **asteroid** //ˈæstərɔɪd// (noun): a small rocky object that orbits a star

## Comprehension Questions

### Multiple Choice

1. When did NASA's Psyche spacecraft get close to Mars?



- Option: May 15, 2025
- Option: May 15, 2026
- Option: May 15, 2027
- Option: May 15, 2028

2. Who leads the team that uses Psyche's cameras?

- Option: Ellen Stofan
- Option: Jim Bell
- Option: Elon Musk
- Option: Neil deGrasse Tyson

3. What shape did Mars look like when photographed by Psyche?

- Option: Round
- Option: Thin crescent
- Option: Square
- Option: Triangular

4. What might Psyche's instruments have noticed?

- Option: Martian storms
- Option: Solar wind
- Option: Earthquakes
- Option: Satellites

5. What will the Psyche spacecraft approach in three years?

- Option: Mars
- Option: Earth
- Option: Asteroid Psyche
- Option: Jupiter

6. Which of the following is true about the Psyche mission?

- Option: It is the first mission to Mars
- Option: It studies an asteroid
- Option: It is a manned mission
- Option: It was launched in 2021

### True-False

7. Psyche's cameras took photos of Mars' southern ice cap.



8. The spacecraft will not be able to study asteroid Psyche.
9. Psyche's instruments measured the chemical makeup of the Martian atmosphere.
10. Scientists believe there may not be big surprises in Psyche's data.
11. Dust clouds were not visible above Mars' surface in the photos taken by Psyche.
12. The Psyche mission will last for five years.

### Gap-Fill

13. NASA's Psyche spacecraft got close to Mars on May 15, \_\_\_\_\_.
14. The shape of Mars in the pictures taken by Psyche was a thin crescent \_\_\_\_\_.
15. Jim Bell, a scientist at Arizona State University, leads the team using Psyche's \_\_\_\_\_.
16. Psyche's instruments might have noticed the solar wind, which is a flow of \_\_\_\_\_ particles.
17. The Psyche mission will approach asteroid \_\_\_\_\_ in three years.
18. Scientists will use Psyche's photos with older Mars data to improve their \_\_\_\_\_ understanding.

### Answer

**Multiple Choice:** 1. May 15, 2026 2. Jim Bell 3. Thin crescent 4. Solar wind 5. Asteroid Psyche 6. It studies an asteroid

**True-False:** 7. True 8. False 9. False 10. True 11. False 12. False

**Gap-Fill:** 13. 2026 14. shape 15. cameras 16. charged 17. Psyche 18. understanding

### Vocabulary quizzes



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**Multiple Choice ( Select the Correct answer for each question. )**

1. What force keeps planets in orbit around the Sun?  
Option: Magnetism  
Option: Friction  
Option: Gravity  
Option: Nuclear Force
2. Which celestial object is considered a rocky body orbiting the sun?  
Option: Comet  
Option: Planet  
Option: Asteroid  
Option: Moon
3. What term is used to describe a group of individuals living in the same area?  
Option: Society  
Option: Community  
Option: Population  
Option: Collective
4. What term describes a state where a virus spreads from person to person?  
Option: Infected  
Option: Immune  
Option: Vaccinated  
Option: Cured
5. Which word describes something that poses a risk or threat?  
Option: Safe  
Option: Protected  
Option: Dangerous  
Option: Shielded
6. Which term relates to genes and heredity?  
Option: Biological  
Option: Genetic  
Option: Physical  
Option: Mechanical
7. What is the term used for a new version of an old film?  
Option: Sequel  
Option: Original  
Option: Remake



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Option: Spin-off

8. What term describes an object that has an electric charge?

Option: Neutral

Option: Charged

Option: Static

Option: Dynamic

9. What term is often used to describe recorded video material?

Option: Clips

Option: Footage

Option: Scenes

Option: Frames

10. What do we call people who sell goods or services at markets?

Option: Exhibitors

Option: Retailers

Option: Vendors

Option: Sellers

**Gap-Fill ( Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list. )**

11. The Earth's \_\_\_\_\_ is composed of several layers of gases.

12. During the experiment, the chemicals \_\_\_\_\_ in unexpected ways.

13. It's important to \_\_\_\_\_ time and resources into community projects.

14. The scientists were able to \_\_\_\_\_ their findings through repeated testing.

15. The new research helped identify a previously unknown \_\_\_\_\_ of fish.

16. Be careful of the bee; its \_\_\_\_\_ can be quite painful.

17. The director used an \_\_\_\_\_ to plan out the animation sequences.

18. The team successfully \_\_\_\_\_ the application to improve its functionality.

19. The program \_\_\_\_\_ young people to participate in local sports events.

20. Many fans attend comic book \_\_\_\_\_ to meet artists and creators.



**Matching Sentences ( Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list. )**

21. The particle was positively charged, which attracted it to the negative terminal.
22. Gravity is what makes apples fall from trees and keeps planets in orbit.
23. Certain chemicals can be classified as dangerous if not handled properly.
24. The application has been redeveloped with a new user interface to enhance user experience.
25. The character was voiced by a popular actor known for his unique style.
26. The community came together to support local artists during the festival.
27. The director was excited to see the new footage from the recent shoot.
28. The team created an animatic to visualize the scenes before production began.
29. The research team discovered a new species in the remote rainforest.
30. The annual conventions draw fans from all over the country to celebrate their interests.

**Answer**

**Multiple Choice:** 1. Gravity 2. Asteroid 3. Community 4. Infected 5. Dangerous 6. Genetic 7. Remake 8. Charged 9. Footage 10. Vendors

**Gap-Fill:** 11. atmosphere 12. interacted 13. invest 14. confirm 15. species 16. sting 17. animatic 18. redeveloped 19. encourages 20. conventions

**Matching sentence:** 1. charged 2. gravity 3. dangerous 4. redeveloped 5. voiced 6. community 7. footage 8. animatic 9. species 10. conventions

**CATEGORY**

- 1. Sci/Tech - LEVEL1

**POST TAG**

- 1. ESL learning
- 2. esl news
- 3. Level 1
- 4. NASA
- 5. Psyche
- 6. spacecraft



7. unfamiliar views

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