

Name _____

Mars By The Numbers Answer Key

Number	What It Refers To
140 million	Average miles from Earth to Mars
7	Months needed for a one-way trip
2020	Year NASA tested the Perseverance Rover
30	Number of rock samples collected
2030s	Decade when the first crewed mission is planned
4	Number of astronauts per spacecraft
2,000	Pounds of supplies on board
500	Days planned for the Mars stay
1,000	Hours of astronaut training
100 billion	Estimated total mission cost

Teacher Notes / Guide

Implementation Tips:

- Use a **timer (3-5 minutes)** for the scanning portion to promote speed without sacrificing accuracy.
- Encourage students to read with their eyes, not lips, reminding them that scanning means *searching for clues*, not full sentences.
- After the activity, discuss how numbers communicate facts and precision in informational writing.

Extension Ideas:

- Have students convert one or two numbers into **different units** (e.g., miles to kilometers, pounds to kilograms).
- Challenge students to **write three new sentences** adding realistic numerical facts about the Mars mission.