

abstract

EXPLORING MARS WITH THE MARS SCIENCE LABORATORY



Following a successful landing in Gale Crater with the Sky crane Entry, Descent and Landing System, the Curiosity rover has started its scientific observations. We are discovering a remarkable set of fluvial sedimentary deposits and igneous rocks of unusual composition. In this talk I will describe the scientific findings so far and what we can look forward to in the next stages of the mission.

Dr John Bridges
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ABOUT JOHN BRIDGES:

Dr John Bridges is a Reader in Planetary Science at the Space Research Centre, University of Leicester. There they use a range of techniques (scanning electron microscopes, transmission electron microscopes, focused ion beam, Diamond synchrotron) to study samples from different parts of the Solar System.

They also use remote images and spectral

data to study the surface of planetary bodies, particularly the evolution of the Mars surface and climate. For instance, the stereo, colour camera, which is part of the ExoMars Trace Gas Orbiter for 2016 is one of the new ways that the surface of Mars will be studied. Dr Bridges is a participating scientist on the NASA Mars Science Laboratory mission, one of the most ambitious planetary missions ever.

The poster has a blue background with a photograph of a Martian landscape at the bottom. In the top left corner is a small black and white portrait of Dr John Bridges. To the right of the portrait, the text 'DR JOHN BRIDGES UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER' is written in yellow. Below this, the event title 'EXPLORING MARS WITH THE MARS SCIENCE LABORATORY' is written in white. In the bottom right corner, the date and time '7.30pm APRIL 18' are written in yellow, followed by the location 'DEPARTMENT OF EARTH SCIENCES SOUTH PARKS ROAD OXFORD' in yellow. The Oxford Geology Group logo is in the bottom left corner, and the website 'www.oxgg.org.uk' is at the bottom center.