



Show It!

PACK YOUR BAGS FOR A TRIP TO MARS!

It can take between 6 -11 months just to get to Mars. When you are there, you will have to stay nineteen months until Mars and Earth are closest again. The entire journey would take about 2 ½ years! What would you take with you?

Assume that all of your basic needs will be met by the supplies on the spacecraft. You will have just one box within which to pack your personal effects for the trip. The box can be no larger than one cubic meter.

Construct a box that fits these dimensions using cardboard or Bristol board. Then, make a list of your items and begin collecting them. Try to fit what you want to take into the box, but leave out anything that does not fit. The box must close for shipping.

Some things to consider:

- For electronics that require batteries, you must take enough batteries to last 2 ½ years.
- There is no cell phone or internet service in space.
- There is no cable or satellite television in space.
- You may want to pack things that can be taken apart and reassembled to save space.
- For one year, you will be in zero gravity. The rest of the time you will be in gravity that is only 1/3 as strong as it is on Earth.
- The weight of the box does not matter.
- Consider leaving out things that you may get tired of or grow out of quickly.

Prepare an oral presentation for your class with your Mars box. Have each item ready for unpacking and explaining to the class why you chose it.