



# ROBOTS in space

People have gone to the moon and have orbited Earth in space shuttles and space stations. But space probe robots have gone a whole lot farther into space. Robots have landed on Venus and Mars and even on Titan, a moon of Saturn. A Pioneer space probe has gone all the way out of our solar system.

The robots you probably hear about the most are the Spirit and Opportunity rovers exploring Mars. The Phoenix Mars Lander is the latest robot to go to that planet. Even while you're reading this article, Phoenix, Spirit and Opportunity are probably sending pictures and soil information from Mars back to scientists on Earth.

It's amazing to think that God created the universe. Genesis 1 tells you about that. You can also read about outer space and God the Creator in other Bible passages like Job 9:9; 38:4-7,31; Psalm 8:3,4 and John 1:1-3. The most important thing to remember is that God created you and He loves you. He wants you to remember His love whenever you look out at the stars. "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands" (Psalm 19:1, NIV).

## Make your own code

Robot space probes use computer codes to send information back to Earth. You can make your own code and send secret messages to your friends. Try cracking this code chart as practice, then make a chart of your own. In this chart, for example, the letter C is , 3. The letter V is , 2. You can draw your own chart and use symbols instead of the planet pictures (!, @, #, \$, %, ^, &).

	1	2	3	4
Mercury 	A	B	C	D
Venus 	E	F	G	H
Mars 	I	J	K	L
Jupiter 	M	N	O	P
Saturn 	Q	R	S	T
Uranus 	U	V	W	X
Neptune 	Y	Z		



## How much would you weigh in space?

Did you know if you could land on different planets, your weight would go up or down depending on that planet's surface gravity? Use the numbers below to figure out how much you would weigh. For example, if you weigh 80 pounds on Earth, you would weigh a little more than 187 pounds on Jupiter (80 x 2.34).

Mercury: Your weight \_\_\_\_\_ x .38 = \_\_\_\_\_

Venus: Your weight \_\_\_\_\_ x .91 = \_\_\_\_\_

Mars: Your weight \_\_\_\_\_ x .38 = \_\_\_\_\_

Jupiter: Your weight \_\_\_\_\_ x 2.34 = \_\_\_\_\_

Saturn: Your weight \_\_\_\_\_ x .93 = \_\_\_\_\_

Uranus: Your weight \_\_\_\_\_ x .92 = \_\_\_\_\_

Neptune: Your weight \_\_\_\_\_ x 1.12 = \_\_\_\_\_

