



## *In The News*

Current Events in Earth & Space Science

Summaries for the Classroom

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### **Indications for Water Flowing on Mars**

Water existing on Mars is not anything new to report, but how about liquid (not frozen) water that is flowing today (not millions/billions of years ago)? Scientists have found that the relatively warmer summer Martian months cause liquid water to flow on the surface.

#### **Articles to Share with Students**

Is Mars Weeping Salty Tears?

<http://news.sciencemag.org/sciencenow/2011/08/is-mars-weeping-salty-tears.html>

Mars Bars: Seasonal Markings on Martian Slopes Could Indicate Flowing Water

<http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=mars-slopes-liquid>

NASA Spacecraft Data Suggest Water Flowing on Mars

[http://www.nasa.gov/mission\\_pages/MRO/news/mro20110804.html](http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/MRO/news/mro20110804.html)

NPR AUDIO: Dark Streaks on Mars May Be Sign of Liquid Water

<http://www.npr.org/2011/08/05/138989182/dark-streaks-on-mars-may-be-sign-of-liquid-water>

#### **General Information**

Mars – NASA Lunar and Planetary Science

<http://nssdc.gsfc.nasa.gov/planetary/planets/marspage.html>

Mars – New York Times Science Topics

[http://topics.nytimes.com/top/news/science/topics/mars\\_planet/index.html](http://topics.nytimes.com/top/news/science/topics/mars_planet/index.html)

Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter - NASA

<http://marsprogram.jpl.nasa.gov/mro/>

Astrogeology Science Center – Mars [USGS]

<http://astrogeology.usgs.gov/SolarSystem/Mars/>

## **Questions for Classroom Discussion**

- Where does water exist on Mars, and in what physical state?
- What is the physical evidence that has led scientists to believe there may be liquid water on Mars?
- How could scientists prove this new idea?
- What is the significance of liquid water on Mars?

*Compiled August 8, 2011, by L.A. Guertin*