

Perseverance Landing Event for Teachers & Students: February 18, 2021 Expedition Center's Mars Research Lab, Houston Museum of Natural Science

Calling all teachers! Please join us with your students for an interactive Zoom presentation of the Perseverance rover's [landing on Mars](#) with a simulated Expedition Center experience. [Download and print the worksheets](#) for students to use during the program. This [live free Zoom](#) program includes the opportunity to interact with our expert staff before and after the landing.

- Dr. Carolyn Sumners, the Museum's Vice President for Astronomy, hosts the Zoom
- Dr. Colin Law and Prof. Patricia Reiff of Rice University and James Wooten of HMNS provide Mars content expertise
- Ken Hayes, Director of the Museum's Expedition Center, leads students as they virtually fly over Mars and determine what life would be like on the Red Planet. Together they'll solve their own landing crisis!
- Henry Ramos, the Museum's Astronomy Outreach Coordinator, will interface with the NASA landing feed, and will answer student questions in Spanish.



Multiple computer feeds provide front-row seats for the landing including the NASA landing feed.

Audiences will take a virtual journey to Mars to experience the Landing of the Perseverance Rover. The excitement builds as the lander enters the Mars atmosphere for a 7-minute dramatic descent to Jezero Crater, followed by an 11-minute wait for the first confirmation from Mars. As the event begins, we focus on the landing and on the future of Mars exploration with kids who may choose to be on the first Mars mission. Interactive activities include planning the landing, growing plants on Mars, searching for water, flying a low Mars orbit, and visiting a simulation of our first human habitat on Mars.



Tentative Schedule (*Central Standard Time*)

- 2:00 Introduction to the team and virtual tour of the Expedition Center
- 2:10 Activities and Worksheets for the virtual expedition (<http://space.rice.edu/Mars/>)
- 2:55 Perseverance Lands after "7 minutes of terror" – the time between the start of landing procedures and touchdown. During this time, the spacecraft must act autonomously to achieve a safe landing.
- 3:15 First image returned from Jezero Crater (*estimate*); local Q&A on Zoom
- 3:45 Program ends



Sign up: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/perseverance-landing-zoom-classroom-tickets-141487630311>