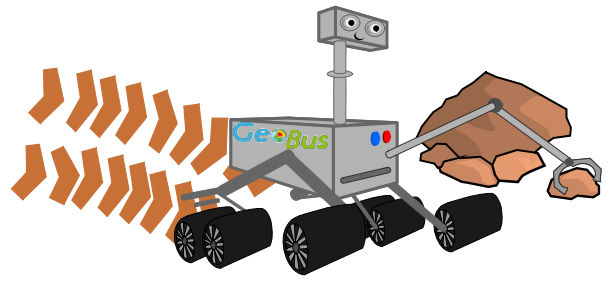


The Martian

Science Fact or Science Fiction?



Materials: You will need access to a copy of the film - *The Martian*

Background: Perhaps surprisingly, compared to many other space themed movies, *The Martian* is actually quite accurate with only a few points which are completely untrue. In this activity, selected clips of scientific importance/key situations are used as the base for a discussion on the accuracy of science in popular films.

The clips have been chosen to make sense even when viewed individually, but it may help to watch the whole film for anyone who hasn't seen it.

When a group of astronauts blast off from Mars, they leave behind Mark Watney, presumed dead after a fierce storm. With only a small amount of supplies, he must use his wits, knowledge and spirit to find a way to survive – hoping someone will realise he is still alive and come back for him!

Instructions: Start the short video 'The Martian: Science Fact or Science Fiction'; pause and watch the film clip where prompted, decide whether the depiction is realistic or not. Once you have decided, you can restart the video and reveal the answer.

Clips from the film are given as times (hh:mm:ss), the corresponding 'chapter' (some as log entries) in the book are also given – please note that the film contains some bad language.