

# EDUCATOR NEWSLETTER

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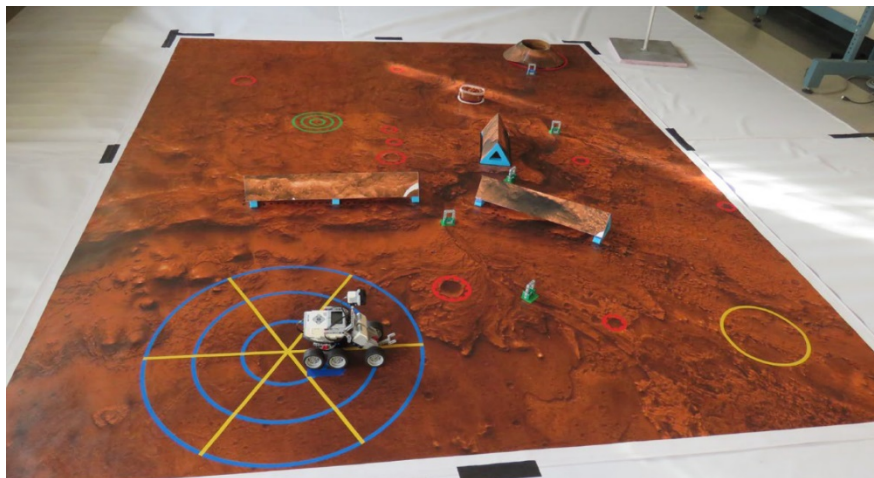
## ROADS on Mars – Student Challenge

Registration is now live, closing on 11/15/2019!!

Following in the steps of NASA's Mars 2020 mission, the ROADS on Mars challenge gives teams of students grades 3–12 a chance to tackle a mission to Mars, following in the path of the next rover — Mars 2020. Just like the next rover, teams will face challenges including engineering and programming, analysis of biological signatures and geologic features, not to mention flying to Mars and successfully landing. Utah's challenge event will take place at Snow College on 4/25/2020.

Student teams will pilot and land a drone, just as the real mission will land in Jezero crater on Mars, and then use a LEGO

Mindstorms robot "rover" to navigate the surface and complete science objectives. ROADS stands for "Rover Observation And Drone Survey," which are key components of the Mars challenge. ROADS on Mars also introduces several mini-challenges that will incorporate biological and geological concepts. Mars 2020 will be searching Mars for signs of past life, and student teams will likewise explore their local environments to identify biosignatures. Teams will also investigate both how craters are formed and the effects of erosion on a landscape.



Important links:

- Registration here: <https://nwessp.org/mars/registration/>. Teams are welcome to apply from schools, other robotics organizations, libraries, museums, scout troops, clubs, or other organizations.
- Timeline and more information: <https://pita.ess.washington.edu/nwessp/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2019/09/ROADS-on-Mars-Brochure-v1.pdf>
- Challenge manual: <https://pita.ess.washington.edu/nwessp/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2019/09/ROADS-on-Mars-Challenge-Manual-v0.5.pdf>

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