

## Mars for Earthlings

**LESSON 14: Water World****Homework 1**

Water World\_MFE

*Mars Ocean Press Release***Purpose:**

Critically assess the validity of media-released discoveries of Mars; in this case, a Mars ocean.

**Directions/Questions:**

Navigate to the following press release by CU-Boulder in June 2010:

<http://www.colorado.edu/news/releases/2010/06/13/new-cu-boulder-study-indicates-ancient-ocean-may-have-covered-one-third>

1. What evidence does the article use to support an ancient Mars ocean?
2. In what geologic age of Mars' history would oceans most likely have existed? (Noachian, Hesperian or Amazonian) \*Note: You may need to do some outside research to answer this question.
3. What evidence would convince you that an ocean existed on Mars that this press release did not address?
4. How would you improve the press release overall?
5. Contrast the Science Daily press-release with CU-Boulder's press release. Do they differ? If so, how?  
<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2010/06/100613181245.htm>
6. Find a more recent article on the potential Mars Ocean. Summarize the major points. Has scientists' thinking on the topic changed?

**Be prepared to discuss your opinions in class!**

