



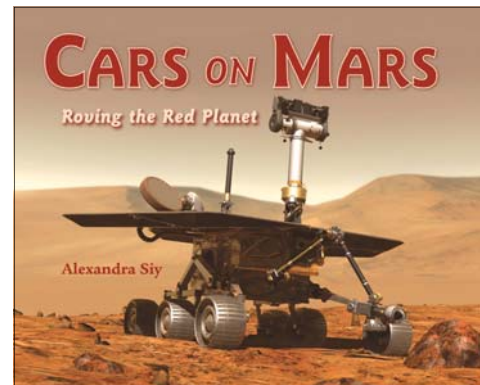
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CARS ON MARS

Roving the Red Planet

Alexandra Siy



July 2009
ISBN 978-1-57091-462-1 \$18.95 HC
Ages 8 and up • 11 x 9 • 64 pages
Full-color photographs

Pack your bags. We're going to on a road trip—to Mars!

A pair of robotic geologists were launched into space in 2003, with a mission to explore the Red Planet in hope of finding evidence that life had ever existed on Mars, or still might. But the Mars Exploration Rover (MER) mission started long before that. Alexandra Siy tells the story of how one young college student became intrigued by the question of life on Mars when he saw photos of the planet taken by the Viking orbiters in 1977. That student, Steve Squyres, eventually pulled together a team to build the two rovers—*Spirit* and *Opportunity* (named by a nine-year-old girl who won an essay contest)—that were sent to Mars to seek out water.

Part road trip and part astronomy book, *Cars on Mars* combines the excitement of exploration and the details of the scientist's analyses of Mars into a fascinating story that is still unfolding.

Illustrated with photographs from NASA taken by the rovers, as well as artist's renderings, this amazing journey will have young readers planning their own trip to the cosmos.

Alexandra Siy is the author of more than a dozen books for children, including Sneeze!, an NSTA Outstanding Science Trade Book for Students K-12, and Footprints on the Moon, which received a Parents' Choice Nonfiction Silver Honor Award. She lives with her husband and children in New York State, where she writes, snaps photos, and watches the Moon, stars, and planets.

To receive a review copy or to arrange an interview with Ms. Siy, please contact
Donna Spurlock at (617) 926-0329, ext. 122, or via email at dspurlock@charlesbridge.com.