

# A MESSAGE HOME STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

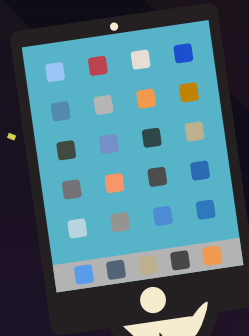
Before starting your mission, make sure you have all the equipment you need. You can refer to the A Message Home kit list for this information.

## THE MISSION

We have crash landed on the red planet and need to communicate with NASA to help us get home. Due to the relative orbits of Earth and Mars, we can only send a 30 second video communication every 24 hours.



[XMA.CO.UK/MARS](http://XMA.CO.UK/MARS)



## STEP 1

Astronauts get into groups of 2-4. Share with the class all the information we have about Mars using the *Padlet* app, including detail about supplies, available technology, location co-ordinates and other messages we may want to reach loved ones.

## STEP 2

Using the iPad in their groups, pupils can begin to extract information from the app to compile the message they would like to deliver in their 30 second messages.

It is important they consider what is most essential – how they craft this to prepare themselves to deliver it on camera is completely up to them! They may be happy to continue using *Padlet* app or prefer to list these in the *Notes* app.

## STEP 3

You can provide Mars background images to your astronauts via *AirDrop*, or ask them to source these themselves. These will be used on the *Green Screen* app, to set the scene for delivering your message.

It's time for astronauts to find their green screen, get into their best space gear and open the *Green Screen* app on their iPads! Using the app, you can now apply the Mars background and film your 30 second video. The video can't exceed 30 seconds or the transmission will fail!!

Here is how to do this:

- Open *Green Screen* app
- Tap '+' to open a new project
- Tap the bottom '+' and select an Image
- Tap the middle '+' and select 'Camera' (The camera will be front facing. Use the camera switcher button to change to rear camera.)
- Tap the top '+' to select any overlay images. This could be a rocket, planet or another astronaut. The image must have a green surround to make it work.
- Ensure 'Video' is selected and tap the red button to begin recording
- When stop is tapped, there are various options to save and share your video

## STEP 4

Once you have used the *Green Screen* app and feel confident there are various editing options available. You can find more information to help you here: <http://www.doink.com/support/>

Review all the videos as a class and discuss whose video provides the best scope of information to Houston, to help them survive for long enough to save them.

## YOUR NEXT MISSION

As an extension to this mission, astronauts should be prepared for all potential problems. We lose video and only have a still camera – what could they use to deliver the message?

We lose audio – what can they use to deliver the message? This is where serious contingency planning should come into play.