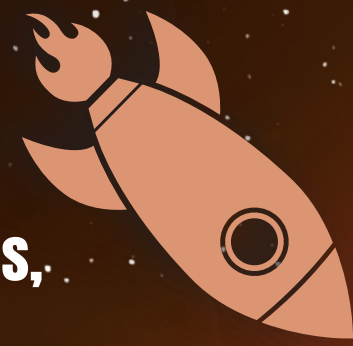


Going GREEN on the RED Planet

A *Florida Tech* guide to sustainability on Mars

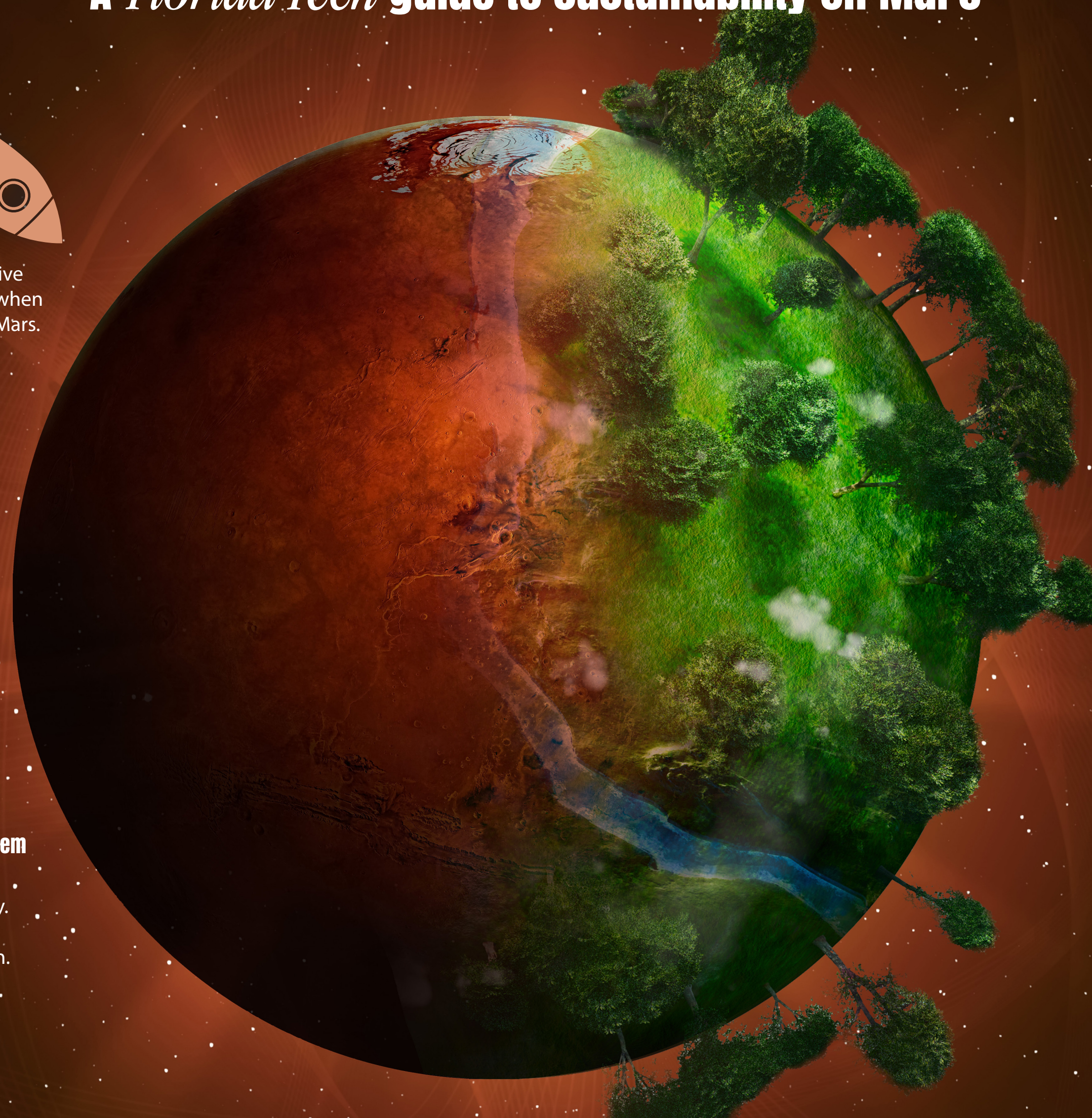
Rockets have weight limits, and it's a pretty long trip.

So if you can't produce it on Mars, you have to live without it. Dirt is heavy, and weight is an issue when you're launching people and other supplies to Mars. We'll have to travel light.



Plants play a role in not only keeping colonists alive but helping them psychologically face living on a different planet.

Just looking at plants reduces stress and anxiety. That's one of the reasons why astronauts grow lettuce on board the International Space Station.



Mars Terminology 101

In Situ Resource Utilization is learning how to live off the land in space. To put it simply, a team of Florida Tech professors and undergraduate astrobiology students are working in partnership with NASA to figure out what it will take to grow food on Mars so future explorers will have something to eat.

Martian Regolith is Mars dirt. Since we don't actually have any Mars dirt here on Earth, researchers have to use the next best thing, which is "regolith simulant."

This is volcanic soil from Hawaii.



✓ What would you bring on a trip to Mars? ✓ What would it take to sustain life just in your classroom? ✓ What's an astrobiologist?

Answers to these questions and Mars sustainability lesson plans can be found at: www.fit.edu/stem-poster