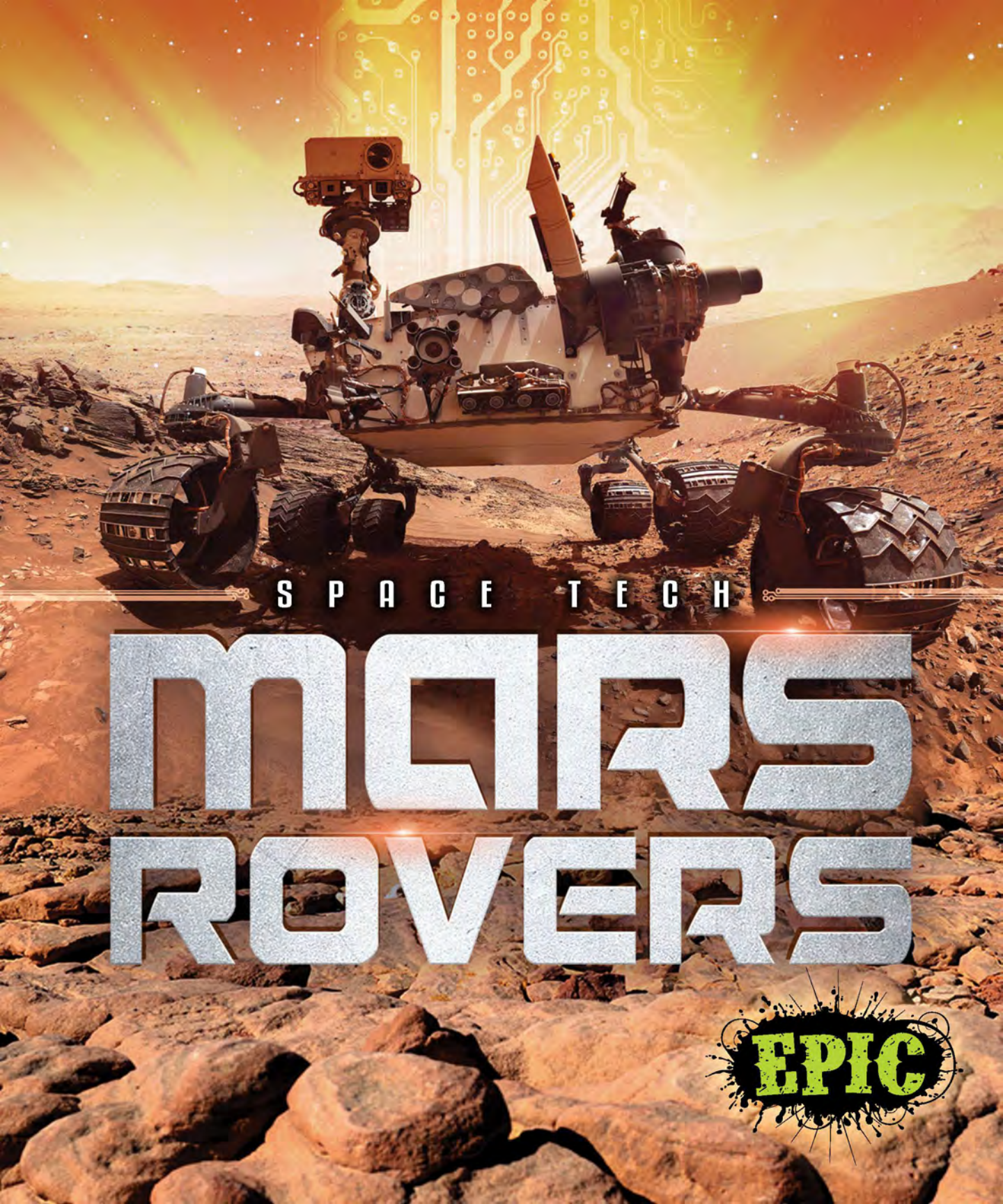




S P A C E T E C H

MARS ROVERS

EPIC

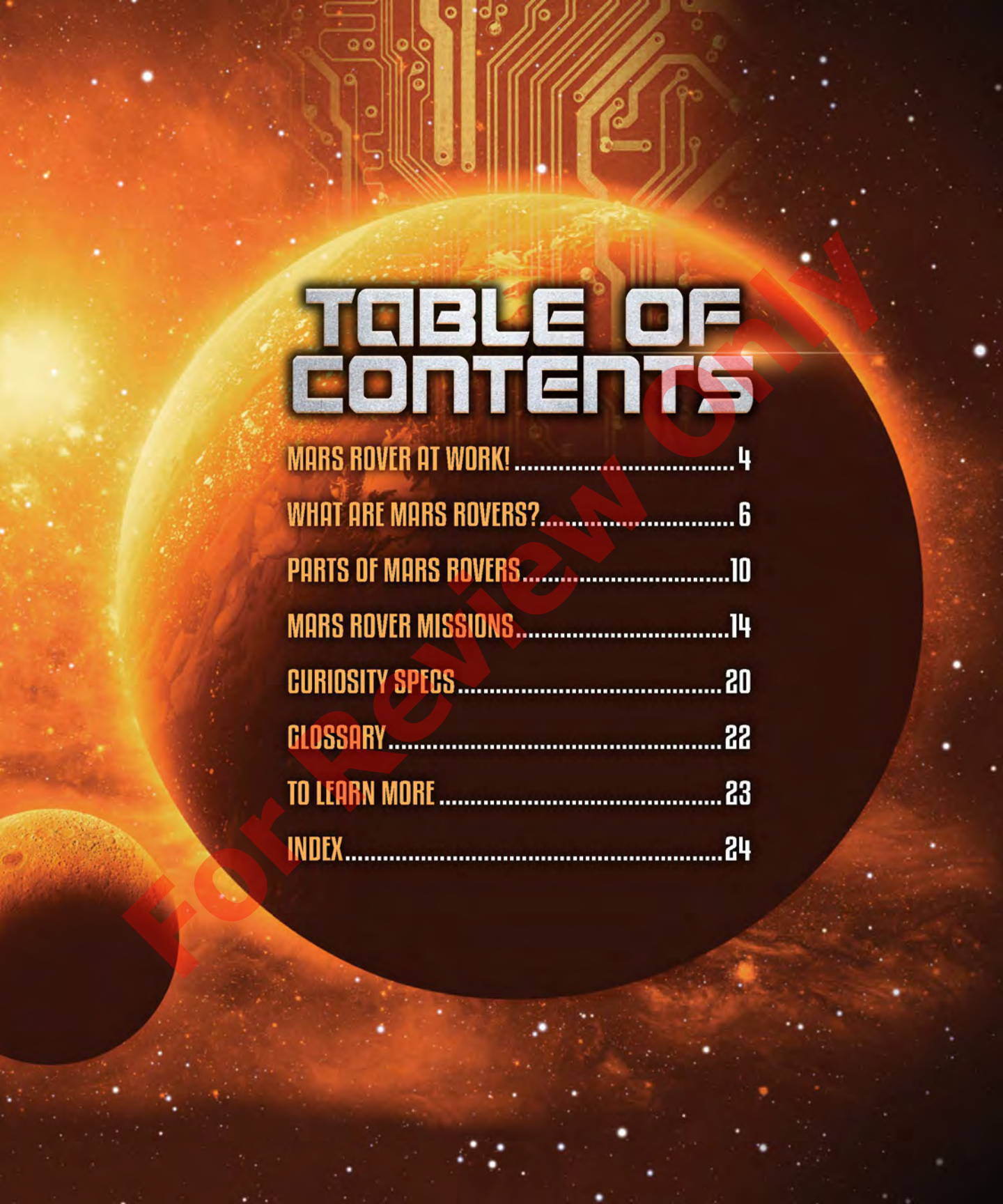


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MARS ROVER AT WORK!

A **spacecraft** nears the planet Mars. It carries the Curiosity **rover**. The spacecraft drops near the surface. Then a crane lowers Curiosity. Its landing is a success! This new Mars rover is ready to explore.



Curiosity

ALL IN A NAME!

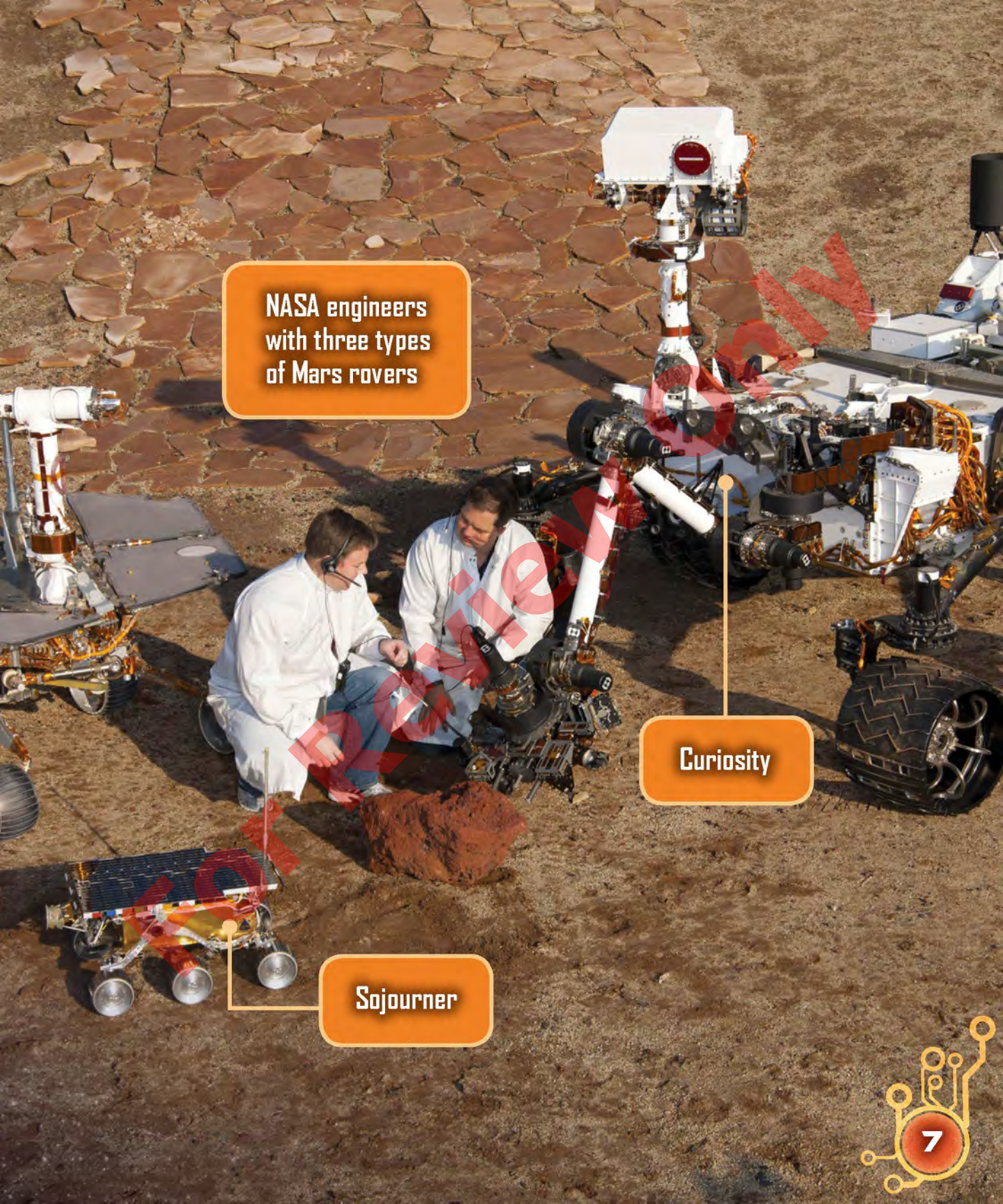
"Rover" also means a person who wanders around.



WHAT ARE MARS ROVERS?

Mars rovers are machines sent to Mars. This planet is too far away for humans to reach right now. Rovers are sent instead. The machines move around the planet and study it for humans.





NASA engineers
with three types
of Mars rovers

Curiosity

Sojourner



RED PLANET!

Mars is often called the "Red Planet." Its soil often looks red.





soil sample
from Mars

Rovers collect rocks and soil. They take pictures and try to find signs of water. They also study the planet's **atmosphere**. Their findings are then sent back to Earth.