SPACE COMMUNICATIONS & NAVIGATION (SCAN) VOCABULARY KEY

ANTENNA: A structure that receives or sends electromagnetic waves such as radio waves. Antennas can be found on many space communication systems, from ground stations to satellites.

ARTEMIS: NASA's mission to land the first woman and next man on the Moon by 2024.

COMMUNICATIONS: The exchange of information from one place or person to another.

DATA: A collection of information such as facts, numbers, measurements, photos, or observations.

GROUND STATION: A surface-based facility designed to provide real-time communication with satellites by sending and recieving radio signals.

LAUNCH: When an object pushes off of the Earth's surface and is sent on its course to space.

MARS: The fourth planet from the Sun and the second-smallest planet in the Solar System after Mercury.

NASA: The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is a U.S. government agency responsible for America's civil space program.

NAVIGATION: The determination of current position, speed, direction, and how to get to another place.

ROVER: A vehicle used for exploring the surface of an extraterrestrial body (such as the Moon or Mars).

SATELLITE: A spacecraft that orbits the Earth, the Moon, or another celestial body. Satellites use radio signals to communicate with ground stations on Earth, and with rovers on the Moon and Mars.

SCAN: The Space Communications and Navigation program we call "SCaN" has antennas around the world and satellites in space to help guide, and exchange important information with all NASA spaceflight missions.