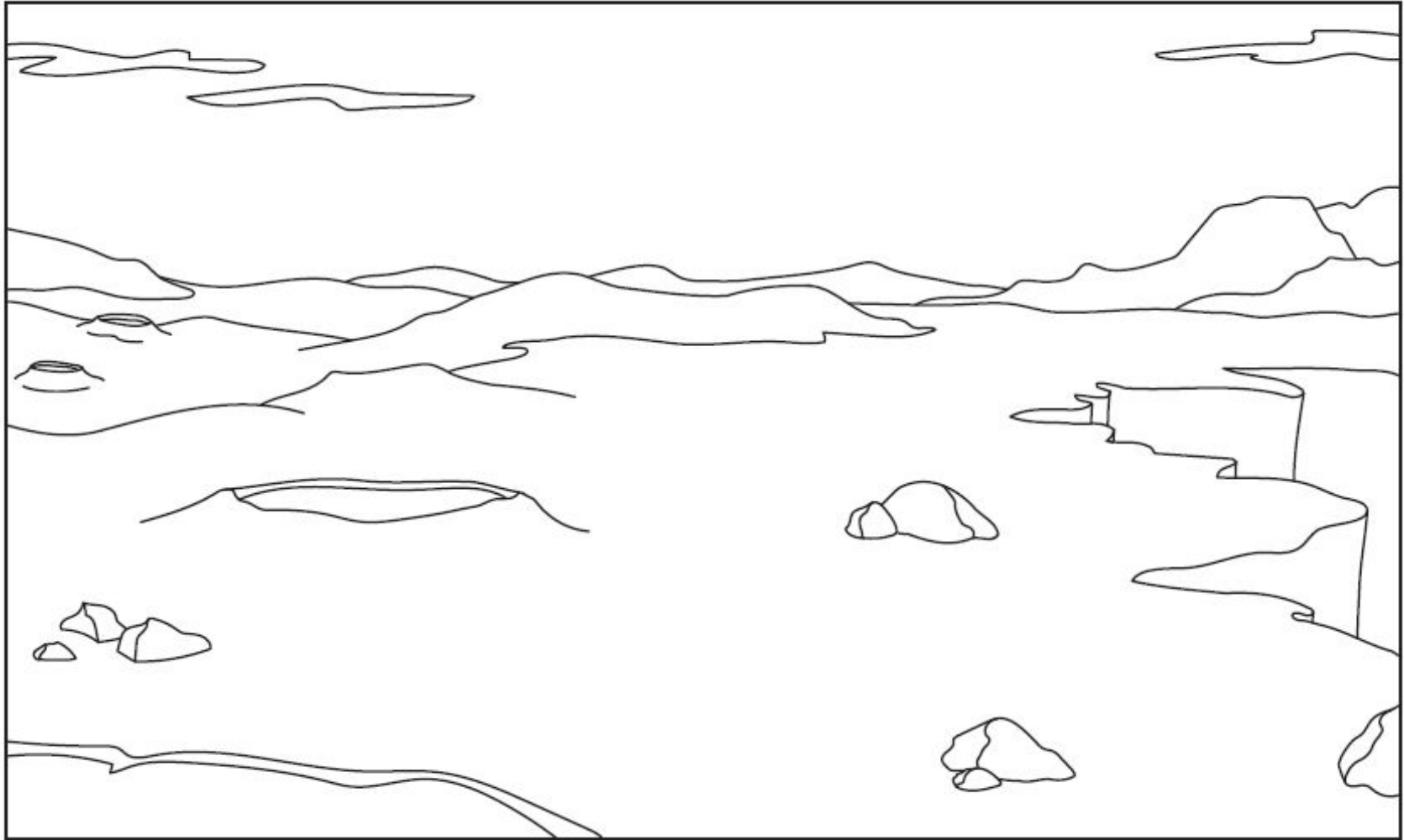


Astrocamp



Mars, known as the Red Planet, has a variety of colors seen on the surface. This rusty red color is **iron oxide**, just like the rust that forms here on Earth when iron oxidizes – often in the presence of water. Some places on Mars are white with ice or silica deposits. The array of colors we see on Mars is a result of mineral diversity – different minerals have different colors – just like on Earth.