

Kepler Discovers Its First Rocky Planet

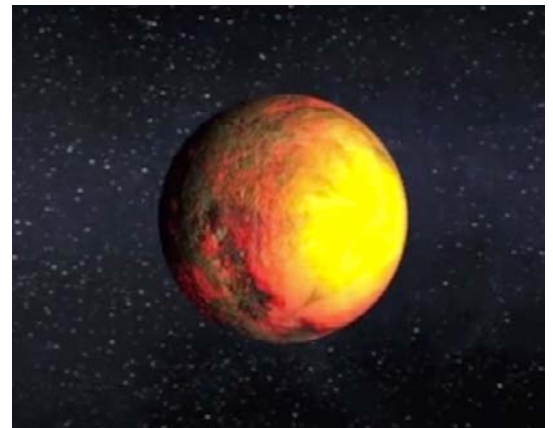
Name _____ Date _____

Directions: Write your responses on this sheet or on separate paper.

1. What are scientists studying with the Kepler Space Telescope?

2. How is Kepler-10b similar to Earth, and how is it different?

3. Why did the artist draw the exoplanet Kepler-10b with a red and yellow scorched surface as shown in the picture?



4. How is observing stars that are very, very far away similar to traveling back in time?

5. Astronomers usually look for stars similar to the Sun and planets similar to Earth in order to decide whether life might exist elsewhere in the universe. Why do you think this is so? Do you think scientists should also look for life by studying stars and planets that do not resemble the Sun and Earth? Explain both parts of your answer.