

Hi Kimberly! So, the Mars rovers are like little robots that went to visit Mars, which is a big and red planet far away from us. They have special jobs like taking pictures and looking for rocks.

Now, sometimes the rovers need to talk to Earth to let us know what they are doing. Imagine if you had a toy that could only work when it was sunny, but one day it got super cloudy! The rovers can also have days when they can't talk to us, and that can happen for a few reasons.

One reason is because of something called a 'dust storm.' Mars gets very windy, and sometimes the dust can cover the rovers like a blanket, making it hard for them to see or hear us.

Another reason is that they need to save energy, just like how you might save your battery on your toy. So, when it gets very cold at night, the rovers go to sleep and turn off to save their energy until it's warm enough to wake up again!

So, when we say they're 'offline,' it means they are resting or are covered in dust, but don't worry! They will wake up and start exploring again when they're ready!