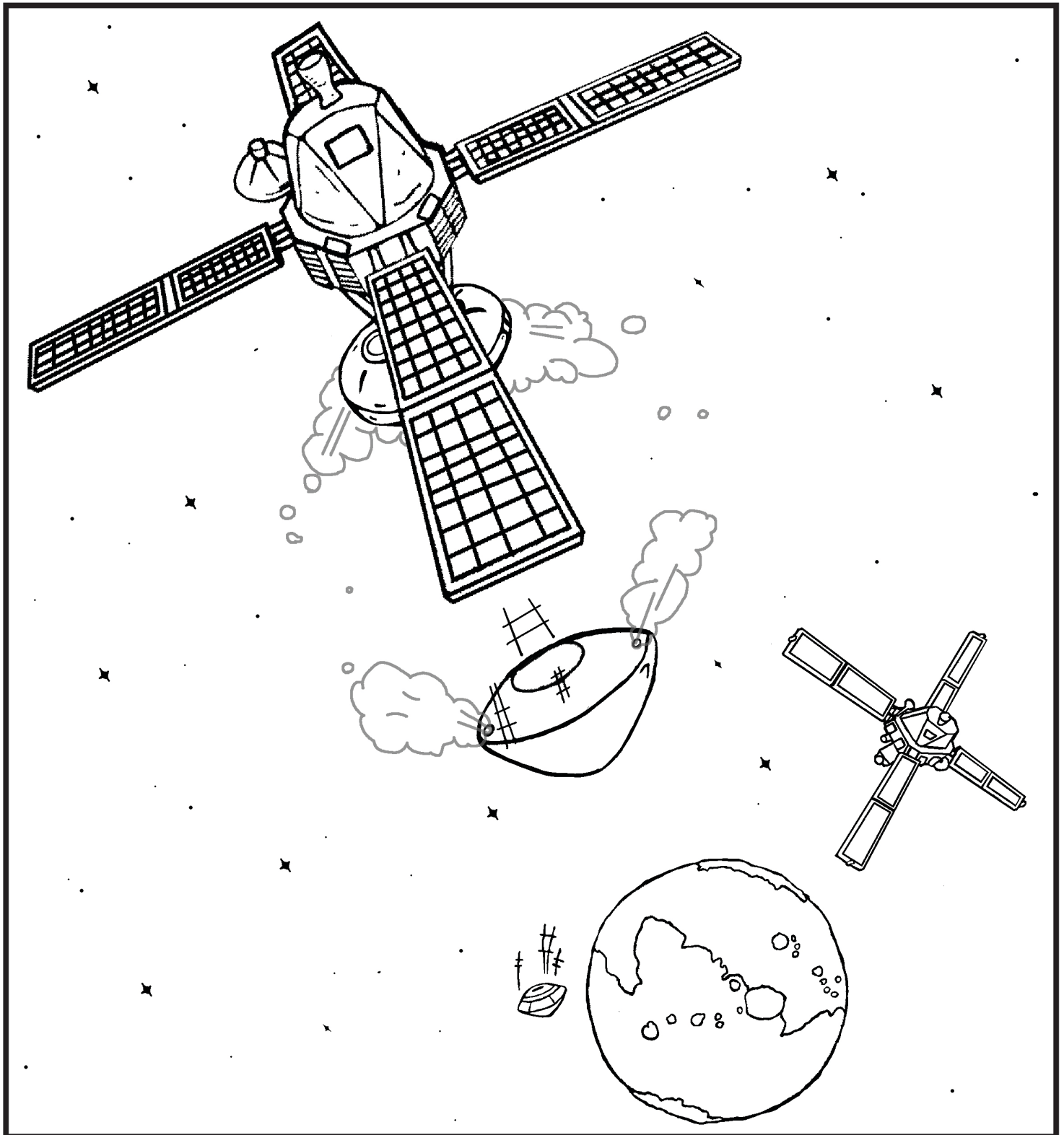


Astrobiology Coloring Pages: Color Me Mars! The Viking Program

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration



NASA's Viking Project was the first fully successful mission to land on the Martian surface and the first to search for evidence of life on Mars. Two identical spacecraft were built, each consisting of an orbiter and a lander. Viking Lander 1 touched down on the western slope of Chryse Planitia (the Plains of Gold) on July 20, 1976. Viking Lander 2 settled down at Utopia Planitia on September 3, 1976.