I selected the name curiosity and I chose that name because I was really curious about space in our planets in our solar system and I wanted to learn more about it. I want to inspire kids to be curious and to follow what their heart wants them to do and to think about things and then be curious. I found out that I won the contest um when um well I know someone was calling um our house and our mom was my mom was talking to someone but I didn't really really care because I didn't really know.
yeah and then I went downstairs and I heard my mom saying well that's wonderful and she was really excited and I and I didn't know what would make her that excited and then so I asked my sister and she was like trying to be really secretive but um I got her to tell me why our mom was that excited so um and then while she was on the phone I was running up and down the stairs because I was really excited and I had a lot of energy and wanted to like run it off so I would like run up and down the stairs and Leslie until she was off the
the Mars rover is interesting to me because it's actually going somewhere besides earth and to me that's interesting because I've only ever well I've only lived in Kansas which is really small compared to everything and of course I've never been off the earth but um it's really exciting because I look at the stars at night and I just wish that I could be there and having to do with something that will be going somewhere out there is really cool not bad to be curious and they should
they should ask questions and they

 shouldn't be afraid to ask questions and

 they should want to learn in

 be curious

 the name I suggested for NASA's Mars Science Laboratory Rover is curiosity

 and here's the essay a room curiosity is

 an everlasting flame that burns in everyone's mind it makes me get out of

 bed in the morning and wonder what

 surprises life will throw at me that day

 curiosity is such a powerful force

 without it we wouldn't be who we are

 today when i was younger i wondered why

 is the sky blue why do the stars twinkle
why am I me and I still do I have so

many questions in America as a place

where I want to find my answers

curiosity is a passion that drives us

through our everyday lives we have

become explorers and scientists with I

need to ask questions into wonder sure

there are many risks and danger but

despite that we still continue to wonder

and dream and create and hope we have

discovered so much about the world but

still so little we will never know

everything there is to know but with our

burning curiosity we have learned so
The contest was to name the Mars Science Laboratory Rover our next rover that we're sending in 2011. It was opened up to high school and elementary school-aged kids in America to write an essay and pick a name. There were about nine thousand entries and Clara's was chosen. It was a great name with a great sentiment that goes along with it.
think that the cot was a combination of some public polling some mission people and a lot of input from a couple of different places within NASA to pick the right name that would really represent what we're trying to do and curiosity hit the mark