

COUNTDOWN TO MARS



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1
00:00:13,360 --> 00:00:17,119
Methane, which has been measured
in the Martian atmosphere, could actually

2
00:00:17,119 --> 00:00:22,080
be a sign for life.
It could be coming from the deep

3
00:00:22,080 --> 00:00:27,480
subsurface of Mars
in areas where there's water and methane coexisting.

4
00:00:27,760 --> 00:00:30,240
So, if we could measure close to the

5
00:00:30,240 --> 00:00:35,120
surface of the methane
to get an idea of where to drill deep in

6
00:00:35,120 --> 00:00:39,100
the future, that would really be
advantageous for our research.

7
00:00:41,920 --> 00:00:46,719
So, most exciting would be if the rover
could drive right up to the walls of the

8
00:00:46,720 --> 00:00:52,160
ancient lake bed,
and see beautiful, laminated, carbonate structures

9
00:00:52,340 --> 00:00:55,580
that were made by ancient biology on Mars.

10
00:00:56,060 --> 00:00:58,160
These are called stromatolites.

11
00:00:58,160 --> 00:01:02,800
These laminated, carbonate structures

that are signatures

12

00:01:02,800 --> 00:01:07,360

of microbial activity
and I'm hoping that the ones on Mars

13

00:01:07,360 --> 00:01:11,520

would be as well preserved or even
better preserved than the beautiful ones

14

00:01:11,520 --> 00:01:14,880

we find in Western Australia, and maybe they

15

00:01:14,880 --> 00:01:17,759

could be even better preserved
because the Mars

16

00:01:17,759 --> 00:01:21,520

stromatolites wouldn't have had mammals
trampling all over them

17

00:01:21,520 --> 00:01:26,720

for thousands of years and I also hope
that they would be filled with really