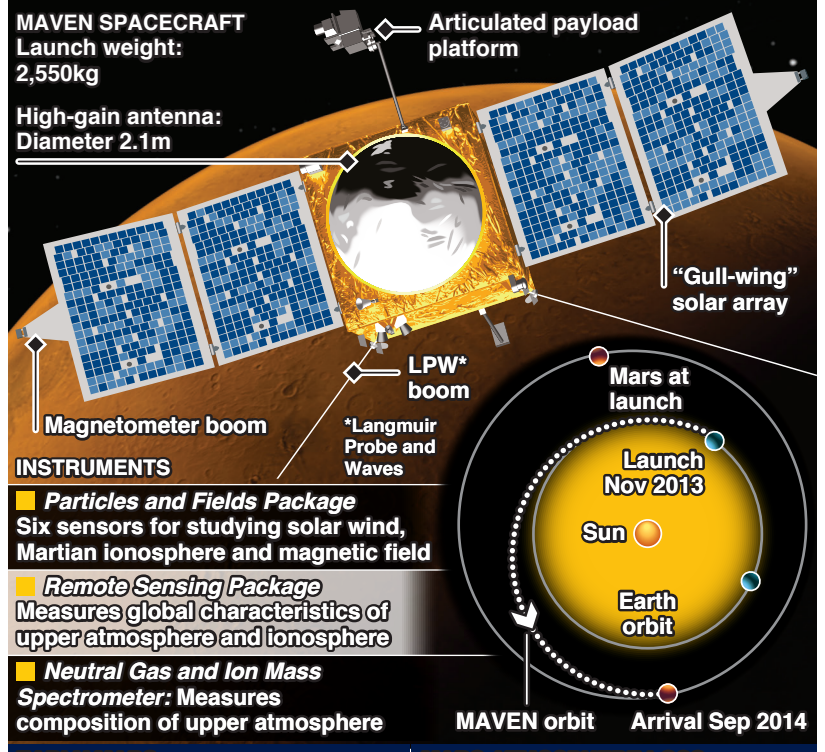
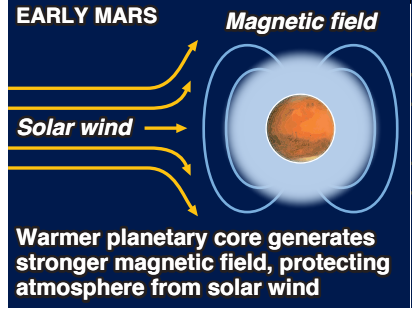
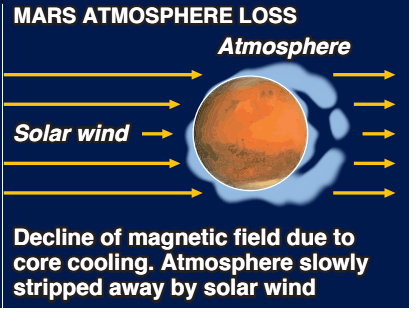
# Solar winds stripped Mars' atmosphere

**NASA's MAVEN spacecraft has observed the direct impact of a solar storm on Mars' atmosphere, showing that solar particles energised gases in the upper atmosphere, causing them to blast into space – stripping the planet of its once-thick, water-rich atmosphere**




Source: NASA Picture: NASA's Goddard Space Flight Centre 