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OPEN SOURCE GALLERY
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Earth date: August 17th, 2015

Dear NASA,

It's me again. It's sol 32 of 36 and my time is slowly coming back into phase with the Earth's.

I know you are busy, but I have a couple more questions and they are the kind that only you would know the answer to.

During my sols I have been thinking a lot about time and exactly what one does with it. Divorced from the steady beat of the Earth's solar cycles, I have begun to question the inherent value of our system of time - even the very concept itself. It really doesn't seem to generalise well to planets other than our own and this has all been a little concerning to me.

Among the things we have to do and the things we like to do, there is a lot of in-between time where not much is done at all. Without the passage of the sun to guide us, how exactly does one define 'a day' and what one hopes to achieve with it?

When weightlessness and the expanse of the universe become commonplace, how do astronauts remain grounded? How do you construct a routine that provides purpose in proportion to our need to 'day'dream? (And more abstractly, as our thoughts drift up to the stars, do the thoughts of astronauts float back down to Earth instead?)

With thanks,



Sara Morawetz

14:36 Earth time // 17:16 Mars time