Exercise 17: Enlarging Planets and Moons

Instructions:

1. Press the **Home** button.
2. Set the date and time to August 27, 2003 at 10:00 PM.
3. Search for Mars in the Find pane and double click on its name to center it on the preview screen.
4. Use the **Zoom In** button until Mars fills the view.

Question: What was the approximate angular diameter of Mars as seen from the Earth on August 27, 2003?

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Question: Every year since 2003 a Mars email goes around stating that Mars will be as big as the full Moon in August. The Moon has an angular diameter of 30' or 30 arcminutes. Based on your answer above, is the Mars email correct?

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5. Zoom out to restore the field of view to 100 degrees.

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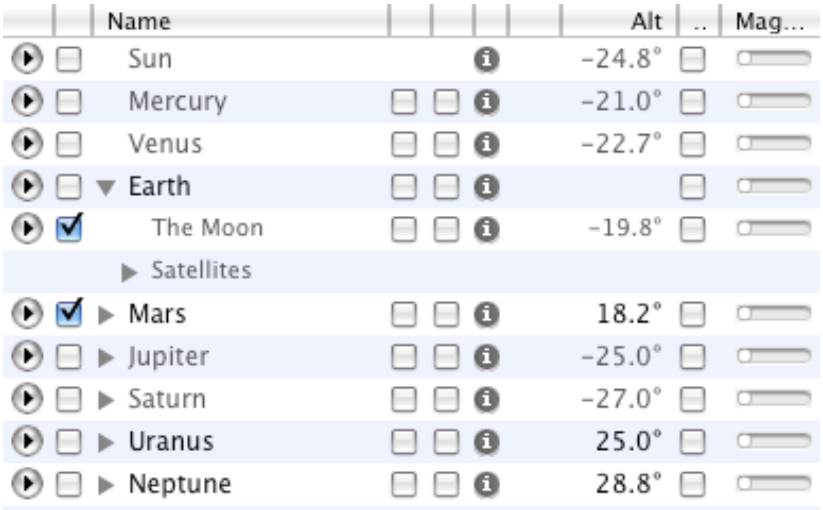
6. Open the Find pane. Right click on any column heading in the Find pane. For example, right click on the "Name" column heading. In the menu that opens, select "Magnification"
7. A new slider under the column heading "Mag." will now be visible.



8. Move the Mars slider to the right and notice that Mars has been enlarged.
9. Try doing it for another planet like Neptune and Uranus.
10. Save your work as a Favourite File. Just don't email it to friends, who might unknowingly start they own Mars type hoaxes!