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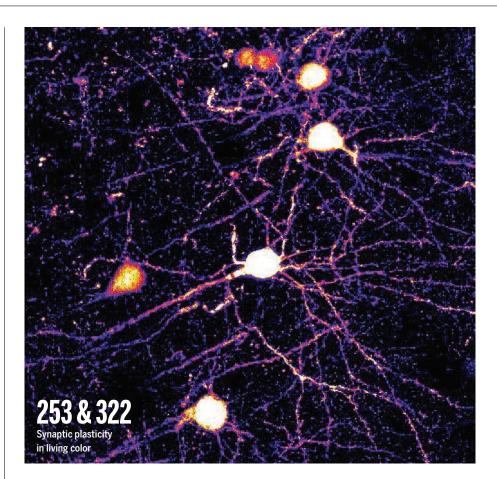
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## **ON THE COVER**

This photograph of Gale crater, Mars, was taken by the Curiosity rover at the Ubajara drill site. The rover's 40-cm-wide tracks are visible in the foreground. The rover drilled a rock sample at this location, which was found to contain



substantial amounts of siderite, an iron carbonate mineral. The siderite likely played a role in an ancient carbon cycle that affected Mars' surface climate. See pages 251 and 292. Credit: NASA/ JPL-Caltech/MSSS

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