

What does it take for a Moon to Support Life?

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Recent findings of extrasolar giant planets within the habital zone of their stars lead to the questions whether or not these planets could be accompanied by Moons that could support life. The magnetosphere of the gas giants in our solar system contain radiation belts potent enough to completely erode the atmosphere of an orbiting Earth-like Moon in only a few hundred years. Which scenarios would allow Moons orbiting giant planets to support life?