­Featured Work: *All of You on the Good Earth* by astronaut William Anders (Apollo 8 Mission - ©NASA)

Insight Activity: Interdependence/We’re All in This Together



Narrative:

Take about 10 seconds to soak in this photograph. Now, imagine you’ve come from a distant galaxy and landed on the light gray landscape in the foreground. Each morning, when gazing into the sky, you see this nearby planet with it’s ever-changing pattern of swirling clouds. Over time, using your supernatural powers, you discover that the blue orb in the sky is covered with an extremely thin layer of what appears to be a single living organism. What observations might have drawn you to that conclusion? Are there certain characteristics that are shared by all human beings? Are there certain characteristics that are shared by all living things?

This photograph, *All of You on the Good Earth,* was taken by astronaut William Anders during the Apollo 8 mission to the moon. How many people do you think directly or indirectly contributed to the success of this flight? What role did plants and animals play? And what contributions were made by the earth’s natural resources? Are we isolated, independent beings, or part of an interconnected, interdependent community?