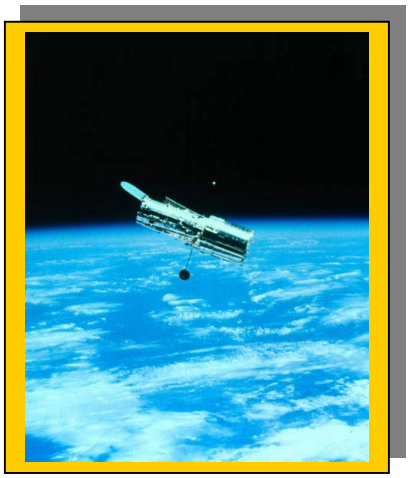
Destination L1: A Thematic Unit

View From Above

STUDENT ACTIVITY

BACKGROUND INFORMATION



NASA

In the high school section of this activity, you will take a birds-eye view of your destination from the "What a Trip!" activity by observing and analyzing satellite images of their destination. You will ask questions about the images of your destination from this vantage point and describe characteristics and possible uses of images produced from this technology.

1. Using one or more of the Web resources provided, locate several images of your destination from "What a Trip!"

   http://earth.jsc.nasa.gov/
   Astronauts' view of the Earth

   http://eol.jsc.nasa.gov/cities/city_map.htm
   Cities from Space

   http://earthkam.sdsc.edu/datasys/GEO_SRCH/ZOOM1_ROW0/GEO_001.HTM
   Earth Cam, clickable map

2. Write a paragraph describing the natural features observed. Include such objects as clouds, rivers, lakes, and other bodies of water, plus land features such as mountains, valleys, or plains.

3. Write another paragraph describing evidence of human land use. Possible observations might be roads, dams, and farming.

4. What other information is provided about your image in the form of captions or data tables?

5. Based on your observations, write several questions that you now have about the location you have chosen.

6. Write a brief procedure for finding some of the answers to these questions.

7. Briefly describe the Web resources used in this activity. What information do they provide? How does a user access information? What are some possible uses for this technology? How could this technology be improved to be more useful?