

The
image
that
shared
our
world

EARTHRISE

Conversation Cards



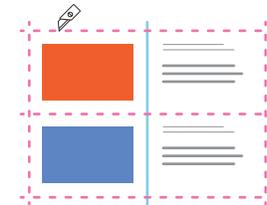
How to use

Use the cards to deepen your students' learning...

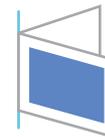
- ★ As pre-film warm-ups to introduce the topics and themes
- ★ As catalysts for post-film discussions
- ★ As writing prompts for personal reflections or essays
- ★ To spark ideas for action or class projects

Preparing the cards

- 1 With a straight edge knife and a ruler, cut along the pink dashed lines.



- 2 Score along the vertical blue line and fold.



- 3 Close with double sided tape or glue at the corners.





think
think

"When you see the Earth from the moon, you don't see any divisions there of nations or states. This might be the symbol, really, for the new mythology to come."

Joseph Campbell, author

How might seeing the Earth without divisions be an important symbol for the future of our planet?



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think
think

"...the most influential environmental photograph ever taken."

Galen Rowell, nature photographer

How is Earthrise an 'influential environmental photograph'?



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The Earthrise photo taken Dec. 24, 1968 (Bill Anders).

think
think

“Man is part of nature, and his war against nature is inevitably a war against himself.”

Rachel Carson, environmentalist

In what ways does the Earthrise photograph provide a perspective to support Carson’s point of view?



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Aerial photo of sand dredging featured in the film “Lost World” (Ken Pelletier).

ask
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“We abuse land because we regard it as a commodity belonging to us. When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect.”

Aldo Leopold, conservationist

Describe the differences between seeing the land as a “commodity” versus a “community.”



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Earth observation taken by the Expedition 20 crew (NASA).

ask

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UN Security Council Secretary General, U Thant called the astronauts of Apollo 8 "...the first universalists."

What might it mean to be a "universalist"? What perspective would a universalist have on global issues such as climate change?



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Living wall from the photo essay "Living Buildings" (Mark Andrew Boyer).

ask

ask

"The care of the Earth is our most ancient and most worthy, and after all our most pleasing responsibility. To cherish what remains of it and to foster its renewal is our only hope."

Wendell Berry, author

Describe 3 ways people can foster renewal and cherish our planet.



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Earth observation views of New York City (NASA)

act
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“Find your place on the planet. Dig in, and take responsibility from there.”

Gary Snyder, poet

Where is your “place on the planet”? Find organizations working to protect or restore that place. Learn what they are doing and how you can join in.



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Waning Gibbous (NASA)

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See how well you know the place where you live.

From where you are standing or sitting, point to north, south, east, and west. Identify the current phase of the moon.



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Earth observation views of The Great Lakes (NASA).

act
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See how well you know the place where you live.

Name the nearest bodies of fresh water and salt water. Estimate the times of today's sunrise and sunset. Describe typical weather patterns in your area.



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Entire sunlit side of Earth from one million miles away (NASA).

think
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"To see the earth as it truly is, small and blue and beautiful in that eternal silence where it floats, is to see ourselves as riders on the earth together..."

Archibald Macleish, poet

How might bearing witness to something reveal or expose a bigger truth?



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think

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Life Magazine described Earthrise as one of “100 photographs that changed the world.”

Name 3 ways a photograph can ‘change the world.’



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think

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“The photograph is an undeniably powerful medium. Free from the constraints of language, and harnessing the unique qualities of a single moment frozen in time.”

Steve McCurry, photographer

How might a photograph challenge your core beliefs? Name two photographs that have changed the way you think about the world.



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Astronaut Bruce McCandless propelling above Earth (NASA).

ask

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"The human definition of the natural world is always going to be too small."

Wendell Berry, writer and environmental activist

Describe a time when you felt small or insignificant in nature.



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The Earthrise photo taken Dec. 24, 1968 (Bill Anders).

ask

ask

"It really boils down to this: that all life is interrelated. We are all caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied into a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one destiny, affects all indirectly."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., civil rights leader

How might the symbol of the Earthrise photograph amplify King's message of interconnectedness?



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ask
ask

Astronaut Frank Borman described seeing the Earth over the lunar horizon as “the most beautiful, heart-catching sight of my life, one that sent a torrent of nostalgia, of sheer homesickness, surging through me.”

How might bearing witness to something allow one to become present in unexpected ways?



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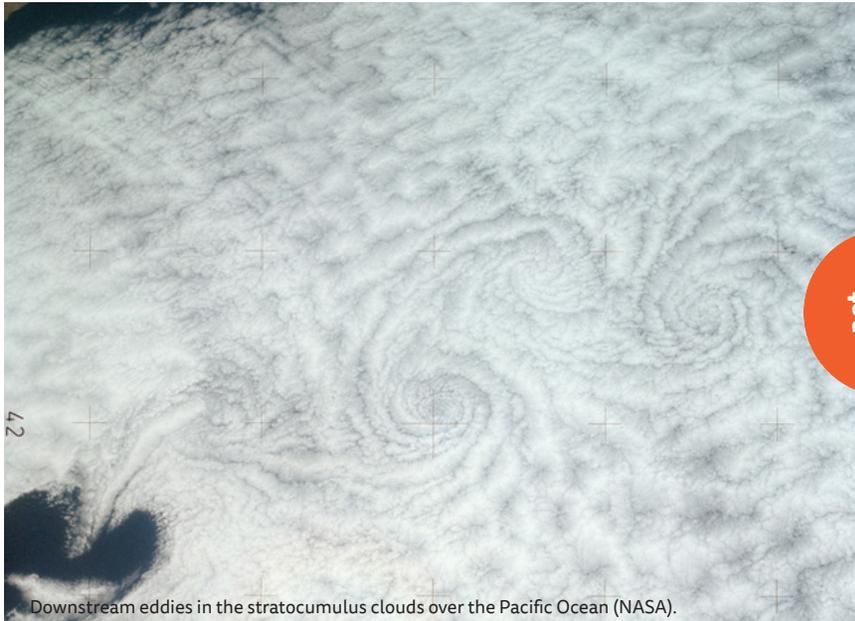
“I wondered what role this image could offer us fifty years later as we face intense political, social, and ecological upheaval. Could it become a symbol of remembrance that unites us?”

Emmanuel Vaughan-Lee, director of *Earthrise*

Do you think the Earthrise photograph could become a symbol of remembrance that unites us? If so, how?



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Downstream eddies in the stratocumulus clouds over the Pacific Ocean (NASA).

act

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“Photos from space show that the sky is not a vast and limitless expanse but it’s a shockingly thin line around the planet and we’re capable of changing its chemical composition.”

Al Gore, former Vice President of the United States

How might space and satellite photography provide us with an awareness of the impact of climate change?



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Sheep in the hills from the photo essay “Farmers of Marin County” (Mark Andrew Boyer).

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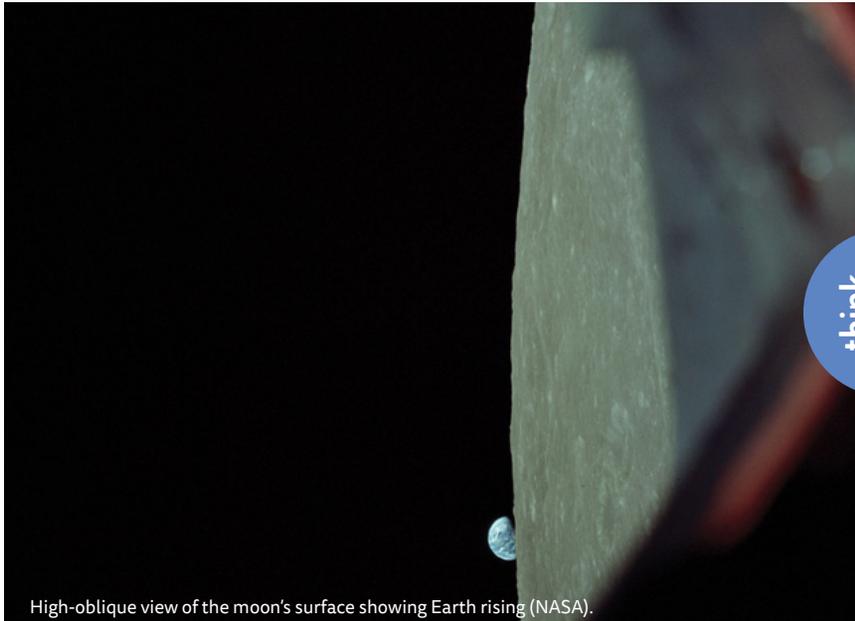
“In nature, nothing exists alone.”

Rachel Carson, environmentalist

Identify any natural object, animal, plant, or element, or person. Create a diagram of what exists with and around it, illustrating Carson’s point.



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High-oblique view of the moon's surface showing Earth rising (NASA).

think

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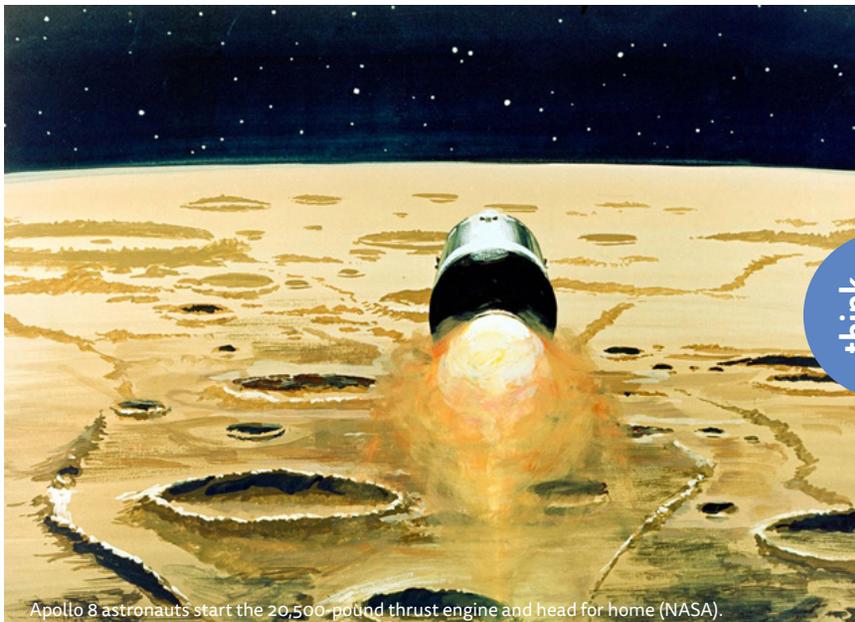
"We came here to explore the moon, and the most important thing is that we discovered the Earth."

Bill Anders, Apollo 8 astronaut

Describe a time you set out with a goal in mind only to discover something totally different.



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Apollo 8 astronauts start the 20,500-pound thrust engine and head for home (NASA).

think

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"Exploration really is the essence of the human spirit, and to pause, to falter, to turn our back on the quest for knowledge is to perish."

Frank Borman, Apollo 8 astronaut

How might the exploration of unfamiliar places allow us to learn about our own selves?



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The Earthrise photo taken Dec. 24, 1968 (Bill Anders).

think

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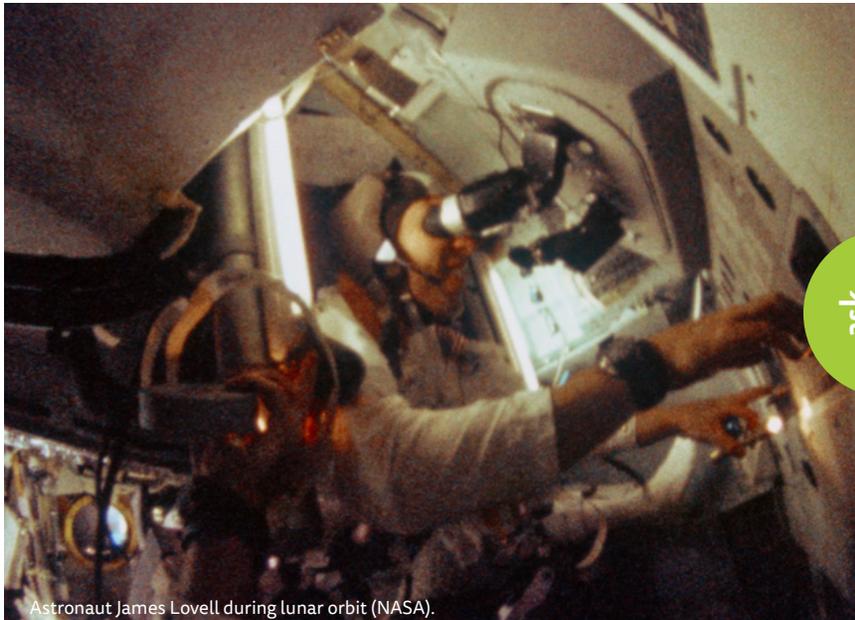
"We were all awestruck by the beauty of the Earth and its color against the blackness of space."

Bill Anders, Apollo 8 astronaut

Describe what happens when your perspective changes. How does a change in perspective shape, define, and even limit, our own experiences?



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Astronaut James Lovell during lunar orbit (NASA).

ask

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"A mind that is stretched by a new experience can never go back to its old dimensions."

Oliver Wendell Holmes, Supreme Court justice

Describe an experience which has expanded your worldview.



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U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Healy in the Arctic Ocean toward the edge of the sea ice. (NASA).

ask

ask

"Every generation has the obligation to free men's minds for a look at new worlds. To look out from a higher plateau than the last generation."

James Lovell, Apollo 8 astronaut

Do you think it is important for your generation to become environmental stewards for the future of our planet? Why or why not?



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John McConnell's Earth Day flag.

ask

ask

"At least for an instant in history, I believe people looked upon themselves as citizens of the earth."

Frank Borman, Apollo 8 astronaut

What might be lost and gained if we saw ourselves as 'citizens of the earth'?



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The Apollo 8 space vehicle is launched from Kennedy Space Center (NASA).

act
act

"We shall not cease from exploration, and the end of all our exploring will be to arrive where we started and know the place for the first time."

T.S. Eliot, poet

How might the act of exploration bring you back to where you started with a new perspective? Describe an experience which proves this point.



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The Apollo 8 capsule is seen being hoisted after its successful splashdown (NASA).

act
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"The dearest things in life were back on the Earth."

Frank Borman, Apollo 8 astronaut

Describe 3 of "the dearest things" in your life on Earth.



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Snow leopard grasslands from the photo essay "Drokpa" (Diane Barker).



act
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"What they should have sent was poets because I don't think we captured in its entirety the grandeur of what we'd seen."

Frank Borman, Apollo 8 astronaut

Think of a time when you experienced grandeur in nature. Write a haiku to capture this experience.



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Share your experiences with us on how you used the conversation cards as well as your thoughts and impressions.

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