



# View From Above

March 24, 2020



## Applause Series Inquiry Guide

# Presentation Info



## View From Above

Step back, about 220 miles from earth, and experience our planet from a new perspective. Former International Space Station Commander Terry Virts helped to install the outpost's 360-degree observation module, which not only helped him to take more photos than any astronaut before him, but also gives those who see the images a deeper understanding of our planet's climate, economics, and place in the universe.

Themes: space, exploration, science, climate, photography

## Biography

NASA astronaut Terry Virts has served as pilot of the space shuttle Endeavour, a crew member on the Russian Soyuz spacecraft, and most recently as commander of the International Space Station during 200 consecutive days in space—one of the longest continuous space missions of any NASA astronaut.

Terry appeared in the 2016 IMAX film [\*A Beautiful Planet\*](#), a breathtaking portrait of Earth from space that features stunning footage of our magnificent blue planet and humanity's impact on it. Much of it was shot by Terry while aboard (and outside) the International Space Station.

His photography, which provides incredible aerial views of Earth and the vast space that surrounds it is featured in the National Geographic book *View From Above*, which was released in October 2017.

## Life On The International Space Station

Completing basic tasks like sleeping, eating and taking out the garbage become complicated when you don't have gravity. Check out the astronaut videos to see how life works on the International Space Station linked in the resources above.

Check out the National Geographic Live Educator Resources by [clicking here](#) for maps, videos, infographics, space facts and links to prepare students to attend and give them deeper connections post-show.



# Inquiry Guide

## Enduring Understandings

- All discovery begins with curiosity.
- The process of documenting and communicating about the study or exploration undertaken is important for National Geographic explorers.
- The act of story-telling and providing visual information about their work helps others to understand and be activated to engage in the issue.

## Compelling Questions

### Explorations

Why do people explore the world? Would you want to be an explorer? Why or why not?  
How does learning about the past help us understand our present? Our future?

Being curious is the most important part of being a scientist, anthropologist, photographer or explorer. What are you curious about?

Telling a good story is an important part of getting others to empathize, understand or take action about any topic. What are the characteristics of a good story/storyteller? What issues do you care about? What personal stories do you have that might inspire others to care about that issue too?

Problems inevitably surface whether you are in the jungle, in space or in the classroom. What were some of the problems that the speaker faced? What were their solutions? What are some of the barriers you have in working on an issue you care about? What do you do or what could you do to work past them?

Use the Explorer Comparisons sheet ([click here](#)) to consider the characteristics of an explorer, like Terry Virts, and how others (even you!) can exemplify these same traits

### Photo Story

How does seeing a picture of something impact your understanding about it? How does it help you “know” something differently?

Use evidence from Terry Virt’s lecture and from the resource below to support your response.

Explore this resource on story-telling and photography

[www.nationalgeographic.org/topics/resource-library-storytelling-and-photography/?q=&page=1&per\\_page=25](http://www.nationalgeographic.org/topics/resource-library-storytelling-and-photography/?q=&page=1&per_page=25)

Check out National Geographic Live’s Educator Resources linked here:

<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/media/terry-virts-view-above/>

for maps, videos, infographics, mummy facts and links to prepare students to attend and give them deeper connections post-show.