



School-Home Connection

Your child is reading a photo essay called “Seeing Earth from Space” that presents photographs of Earth taken from space by astronauts. The text, written by Patricia Lauber, explains the photographs. Some of the photographs illustrate natural changes that occur on Earth, such as the formation of volcanic islands and mountain ranges. Others show changes that have come about because of human activities, such as cutting down tropical forests or creating pollution. The author ends the photo essay by explaining why we should all protect our planet.

Talk About the Environment

Discuss with your child any measures that you take in your own home, or efforts you know about in your community, to protect the environment, such as recycling, conserving water or electricity, or avoiding the use of harmful products. Encourage your child to make a list of things that family members can do to help protect our environment. Keep the list where family members can see it.

VOCABULARY

Word Pictures

While reading “Seeing the Earth from Space,” your child has learned the following new vocabulary words:

sensors	atoll
reef	barren
lagoon	meander

Ask your child to tell you what each of these words means and, if possible, to draw a picture that illustrates the meaning. You might ask your child to draw a picture of an *atoll* and to point out the *reef* and *lagoon* in that picture.



TIME TO READ

Encourage your child to read for at least 30 minutes outside of class each day.

Books About Science

If your child enjoyed reading “Seeing Earth from Space,” you might like to visit your public library to find more books about space or about other areas of science that particularly interest your child. You might also look for other books by Patricia Lauber, including the award-winning *Journey to the Planets* (Crown, 1982) or *How We Learned the Earth is Round*, illustrated by Megan Lloyd (Crowell, 1990).

