



## Investigation 1:

# There's No Place Like Home



### Key Question

Before you begin, first think about this key question.

**What characteristics does the planet Earth have and how do scientists know this?**



A look at Earth from space.

Think about what you already know about the Earth. Write down two things that you feel confident you know about the Earth as a planet. You may want to draw a picture as well. Then, write down how you think scientists have discovered these things about the Earth. What tools or methods do you think they have used?

### Materials Needed

For this investigation your group will need:

- colored pencils or markers and blank paper
- diagram of the Earth, showing the different layers
- relief map or globe of the Earth
- 5" x 8" index cards
- computer with Internet access, if possible

When you finish, share your ideas with other students in your group. Make a group list of what you know and what questions you would like to investigate about the Earth and how scientists study the Earth. Keep this list for later in your investigation.



### Investigate

1. Use the ideas and drawings about the Earth that your group members have already finished. Work together to draw two sketches.
  - a) One sketch should show the Earth as if you were looking down on it from space. Try to show as many features of the planet as you can. Label any features (continents, oceans, mountains, etc.) that you know.