Explore point of view through aerial photography

Student guide

In this activity, you will read about Amelia the Pigeon, and use a mapping program to see your world as she sees it—from the sky. Then you will write a story about Amelia.

## Step 1 Read the story of Amelia the Pigeon and imagine what she sees

Read all the directions in this Student Guide and make sure you understand them before you begin.

On the Internet, go to the Amelia the Pigeon (<http://imagers.gsfc.nasa.gov/amelia/>) Web site.

Read the first chapter of the Amelia the Pigeon story: "How Amelia Got Her Camera."

Answer these questions:

* If Amelia could fly above us, what do you imagine she would see?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* What does the top of the school look like?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* What does the top of your house look like?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Step 2**   
**Look at online aerial photographs of your school and home**

There are cameras in the sky that take pictures the way Amelia does. You can see the pictures online. Visit the Bing maps ([http://www.bing.com/maps/explore/#](http://www.bing.com/maps/explore/)) Web site.

In the Search box at the top of the page, type the school's address, and then click the **Search** button . When the road map of your school neighborhood appears, point to the Globe icon  at the bottom of the map, and then select **Aerial**. Zoom in until you have a good view of your school. What can you see from this aerial view?

Point to the Aerial view icon  on the bottom of the map, and then select **Bird’s eye**. Zoom in until you have another good view of your school. What can you see from this aerial view?

Type your home address, and then click the **Search** button . Follow the same set of steps you did to look at aerial photos of your school.

Answer these questions:

* Are the pictures you receive what you imagined your home or school would look like from the air? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* What did you see that you didn’t think you would see?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* What did you think you would see that you couldn’t see?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Think back to Amelia and her camera. Now that you have seen these aerial photographs of your school and home, what do you imagine Amelia would see if she flew over your school or home?

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**Step 3**   
**Write a story about what Amelia sees**

Open Microsoft Word and create a new document called “[Your Name]: [Title of Your Story]”

Write a story describing what Amelia would see if she flew over your house or school. Be sure to give a title to your story and add your name under it.

Save your work.