

The Buffalo Jump Called Chugwater and an Irrigation Pivot near Wheatland, Wyoming,

by Emmet Gowin



Looking Questions:

- What do you see? Look for shapes, lines, and textures.
- What do you think this is? Where could it be?
- Is it a real place or an imaginary one? Why do you think so?
- How do you think the artist made this photograph?
- Why would Gowin make this photograph?

Activity #1: Exploring Abstraction with Photography

This aerial-view photograph makes the earth below look like an abstract arrangement of lines and shapes. Create your own abstract pictures based on real things by taking close-up photographs of common objects or by cropping magazine pictures. Describe how these objects change and become abstract by zooming in for close-up views and by cropping.

Activity #2: Aerial Perspective

Use Google Earth to look up the address of your home or your school. Write a description about what you see. How does it feel to look at your neighborhood from a distant vantage point?

Image credits: *The Buffalo Jump Called Chugwater and an Irrigation Pivot near Wheatland, Wyoming*, 1991, by Emmet Gowin (b.1946), Gelatin Silver Print on paper, 15 3/4" x 18 1/4", Collection of the Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22



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