



# The Land Down Under

## Omega Investigation

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Cover art: “Warrenheip Hills near Ballarat”  
by Eugene von Guerard, 1811–1901

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## 1 - Investigation Preparation

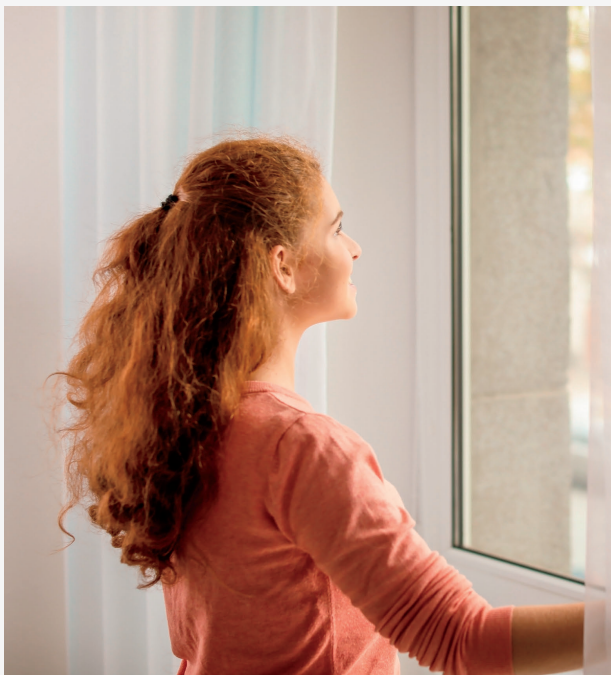
# Perspective

Prior to the Roundtable Discussion, please read over the following text, talk, and questions.

### **Talk: “Charity Never Faleth,” by President Thomas S. Monson (19:48)**

Then take time to thoughtfully answer the questions listed on the following pages.

We encourage you to come prepared to discuss your answers to these questions during the group’s Roundtable Discussion.



As we begin our study of cultures and peoples from all over the world, it is important to understand the concept of perspective. Each person has a lens through which he or she sees the world, a perspective often called a “worldview.”



This worldview is made up of the person’s traditions, beliefs, experiences, family situation, relationships, culture, education, and religion.

Worldviews can be organized into broad categories (which we will study throughout many of our Investigations), but each person’s worldview is unique. For example, you might believe that the best food in the universe is watermelon, but your brother or sister (who was probably raised with you) might have a completely different opinion about watermelon. Even though you’re living in the same house and share a lot of experiences, such as culture, traditions, and beliefs, your opinions are your own. Similarly, family members can have different opinions about gospel topics as they develop their testimonies. If two people in the same family can have different perspectives on many different

## Chapter 1



View of the Cippisland Alps, from Bushy Park on the River Avon by Eugene Von Guérard, 1861

1. What lens does the author see from? (What do you think are his beliefs about Western science, native people's knowledge, global climate change, etc.?)

2. What do his words in this first chapter teach you about his worldview?

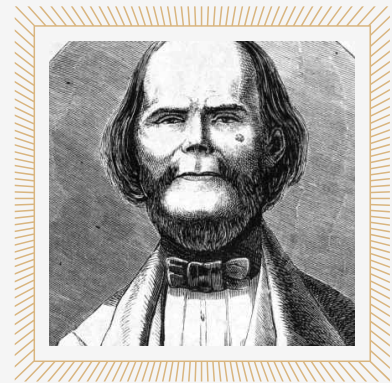
3. How would you define science? What has this chapter added to or changed about your idea of what is considered science? How would you define science? What has this chapter added to or changed about your idea of what is considered science?

4. The Aborigines of Australia see themselves as part of the universe, connected with the land. They see the Earth as a living being and believe that the tribes share the spaces on it but that no one "owns" land. They may claim hunting or fishing rights, but the land itself cannot be owned in their perspective. Western people believe in ownership of the land, that we can pay money and claim that land for our own. Western governments lay claim to the land in their boundaries and oversee the ownership of different spaces (zoning, real estate taxes, property taxes, etc.), with individuals and businesses able to purchase the land and own it with the permission of the government. These two different worldviews have collided on every continent. Is it possible for these two worldviews about land to coexist and for the groups to live peacefully together? What do you think that would look like in a country with indigenous tribes and Western governments? How could they make it work?



## Chapter 1:

1. What motivated Buckley to enlist as a soldier?
2. How did Buckley become a convict? Why did the British government send convicts to Australia?
3. Why didn't the penal colony guards chase after those who tried to escape?
4. What happened to Buckley's companions?
5. How do you think you would handle this kind of experience in the bush? Would you have wanted to turn back or keep going? What would it be like to be all alone in the bush?
6. What are some of the things Buckley did in order to survive? To whom does the author give credit for Buckley's survival?
7. On page 16, the author writes that Buckley said, "... it was never intended that man should live alone." Do you agree or disagree? Many people endured isolation during the Coronavirus outbreak of 2020. Have you endured isolation in your life? What was that like for you?



## Chapter 2:

1. Describe your favorite parts of Buckley's first interactions with the native people in the bush.
2. A "corroberree" is a sacred ritual dance of the Aborigines. How did Buckley feel about the "corroberree" the first time he witnessed it?
3. What caused the conflicts between tribes? What role did Buckley play in these battles between tribes?



## Chapter 3:

1. Buckley was raised by religious grandparents but then turned away from God as a young adult. How did he find God again?
2. Why were the people of his tribe so patient with Buckley? What skills did the tribesmen teach Buckley?
3. The war between the tribes was very different from the wars of England that Buckley had fought. As Buckley began to understand the native tribal language, did his view of tribal violence change too? Support your viewpoint using a quote from the chapter.





*Dandenong Creek (Olinda) Victoria* by Alfred William Eustace, 1890

## SECTION TWO —

### Seeing Science

Discover more about marine biology as you take a closer look at The Great Barrier Reef. Follow the directions listed on pages 19-20.

### Living Literature

Following the guided questions on pages 21–27, read *The Life and Adventures of William Buckley*. Answer the questions in your notebook. Consider sharing some of what you learn with your parents.





## Seeing Science

### *The Underwater Wonderland of Australia*

Every story and documentary is told from a perspective. Usually documentaries are also told in a way that persuade us to think a certain way about the subject (and perhaps desire to take action). As you watch and answer the questions below, listen for clues. What do you think the filmmaker believes about the reefs of Australia? What do you think the filmmaker wants you to learn or believe after watching the film?

Watch *The Underwater Wonderland of Australia*, then in your notebook, answer the questions listed on page 20 of this guide.

#### Notes:

Study tip: It can be very helpful to review the questions you are going to answer before you watch, read or listen to the lesson content. Review the questions, then watch the documentary. You can pause the video to make notes or answer the questions.





## Laboratory Video #2

As you watch the video, make notes and sketches of some of the things you learn and see. Make particular note of features that are unique to the octopus.

- Watch: Octopus Dissection

blue-ringed octopus



red octopus



common octopus

