

NARRATIVE AND THRESHOLDS – THE STARS LIGHT UP

Preparation

- You will need a copy of your Thresholds Graphic from Lesson 2.0, Narrative and Thresholds – the Big Bang. If you skipped that activity, the Thresholds Graphic is attached.
- [Video: *Threshold 2: The Stars Light Up*](#)

Purpose

The eight thresholds of increasing complexity are fundamental to the Big History Project, and they help us remember the modern, scientific origin story that is Big History. By continuing to revisit the thresholds, and by coming up with your own version of the Big History story, you'll be better able to connect and remember what you are learning in this course.

Practices

Reading, writing, causation

Building on the image analysis skills that you practiced in the last Narrative and Thresholds activity, in Lesson 2.0, you will use the BHP Thresholds Graphic to reflect upon what you learned and how it connects to the next threshold. As part of this activity, you'll take a few minutes to write the Big History story in your own words. All of the thresholds dance around the idea of causation. Goldilocks Conditions are certainly contributing factors – or maybe even triggering events!

Process

Take out your BHP Thresholds Graphic. Look at the image for Threshold 2: Stars Light Up, and try to guess what this threshold is about, and also, how it relates to the prior threshold. Next, watch the video, *Threshold 2: The Stars Light Up*.

Once you've watched the video, create a hashtag or two that you think best describe this threshold, add them to the graphic, and then be prepared to share your ideas with the class.

Next, take out a piece of paper, and in just a few minutes, do the best job you can writing a brief Big History narrative. Remember that one of the things we are doing here is trying to remember the big BHP story, and the big turning points in that story, so that as we learn more in a unit, we have a framework for remembering the story. This is meant to be fun and informal, so do your best and make sure you include the thresholds. This will help you see how the thresholds are all connected to one another. It's OK if some of this is guessing and predicting. You'll have opportunities to revise this brief narrative later on in the course.

Name: Date:

