

Misty Mountain Sierra

Imaginative learning project for years 3 and 4



Mighty mountains peak above the morning mist, imposing and eternal, rocky outcrops at their feet. Discover how these giants are formed, as a fold or a block, a dome or a plateau. Follow the water cycle's course from peak to valley and meet the exceptional tribes of the hostile Himalayas. Then, plan a mountain expedition. But look out. What's that by that tree? Its footprints are huge. Have we found the Yeti?

Geography and Science focus. Key Facts:

- A mountain is a large, rocky raised part of the Earth's surface that is much higher than a hill.
- A mountain's highest point is called its peak or summit.
- Mountains are 610m in height or taller and are usually formed in groups called ranges.
- Mount Everest is the world's highest mountain. K2 is the second highest.
- Mountains form over millions of years; they are made when the Earth's tectonic plates push together or move apart. Mountains can also be formed when magma underneath the Earth's crust pushes large areas of land upwards.
- There are six different types of mountain.
- Water cannot be made. It is constantly recycled through a process called the water cycle.
- Key processes within the water cycle are evaporation, condensation and precipitation.
- Contour lines are drawn on a map to show the shape of the land. If contours are close together the ground is steep. If contours are far apart the ground is relatively flat.

Key Vocabulary

- ⇒ Altitude: the height of an object or point above sea level
- ⇒ Condensation: the process of a gas cooling and changing into a liquid
- ⇒ Evaporation: the process of a liquid heating up and changing into a gas
- ⇒ Magma: hot molten rock found in the Earth's mantle
- ⇒ Tectonic plate: a large moving piece of rock that makes up the Earth's crust
- ⇒ Precipitation: rain, snow, sleet or hail that falls to the ground from clouds

Homework Projects

- ◆ Choose one of the world's highest mountains and create a Powerpoint presentation all about it.
- ◆ Write an information booklet explaining how different types of mountains are formed, including labelled diagrams showing each type. Look at fold, block, dome, volcanic and plateau mountains
- ◆ Write a 'true or false' quiz which includes amazing statements about mountains of the world
- ◆ Write a water cycle song or rap. Make sure you include key words such as condensation, precipitation and evaporation