

Year 4 Topic

Misty Mountain Sierra



Mighty mountains rise above the morning mists, imposing and eternal.

During this learning project, we're going up in the world, visiting a hill, upland area or moor, and noticing how the weather changes. Back in the classroom, we'll use a range of maps, information books and websites to write a recount of our visit. We'll find out where the highest mountains are, learn how to use a compass and make 3-D mountain models. Inspired by the magnificent mountains of the world, we'll complete graphs showing heights, look at webcam and satellite images and create wonderful weavings. Using our literacy skills, we'll write mountain-shaped poems. We'll also examine how mountains are displayed on a map and build a water cycle to look at changing states of matter.

At the end of the project, we'll write stories about the Yeti and invite you to a presentation that will showcase our geography skills. Finally, we'll think about our personal 'mountains'. What are our goals and how will we achieve them?

Help your child prepare for their project

Climbing a mountain is an exciting adventure! Why not research one of the world's highest mountains together? You could also find out about the animals that live there and how they have adapted to the environment. Alternatively, visit the library together to find out how mountains are formed and where in the world they can be seen.

What will you choose to do?

- Choose one of the world's highest mountains and create a PowerPoint presentation all about it to show your class. Don't forget to include lots of interesting images and information!
- Find out about animals that inhabit a mountainous area of the world. How do they adapt and survive? Are any of these animals endangered? Why?
- Write an information book explaining how different types of mountains are formed. Include labelled diagrams showing each type. You could look at fold, block, dome, volcanic or plateau mountains and give examples of each mountain type.
- We've talked about the Yeti... Now research other mysterious primates that have inspired people to search for them, such as Bigfoot, in the USA or the Yeren of China. Make 'Wanted' posters featuring an illustration of what you think they may look like.
- Create fact files about famous mountaineers such as George Mallory, Sir Edmund Hilary and Reinhold Messner.
- Research mountain sports such as skiing, snowboarding, rock climbing or mountain biking. Choose one that excites you, and create a scrapbook of information and images. Feature the equipment or clothing needed and the world's best competitors in the sport. Perhaps you could join a class or club and try the sport out for yourself?
- Write a 'true or false?' quiz which includes amazing statements about mountains of the world.
- Create a 3-D food model of a mountain, mountain range or a particular local hill, using ingredients of your choice. You could use jelly, cake, or even mashed potato! Who can make the highest structure? Or the most realistic one? Take a picture to compare with your classmates' models.
- Write a 'water cycle' song or rap. Make sure you include key words, such as condensation, precipitation and evaporation.
- Write a diary entry for a child living in a mountainous region of the world. What happens in their daily life? How would their day differ from your own?

