

Unit 1 Introduction

1. Whole class instruction

Objective: To introduce children to mountains in a systematic way and to see how we relate to mountains spatially.



1.1. Go to Mountain>>Classroom cinema

**“Do you know what a mountain area is like?
Let’s look at this video of the Alps to start our exploration...”**

- ▶ Watch the classroom cinema as a group to build background knowledge and get a mental perspective of the topic.

Classroom cinema video. Play twice, the second time with sound down and children explaining what is going on.

1.2. Go to Textbook pages 4-5

“Let’s stand back from a mountain and see it from high in the sky”:

- ▶ Do children recognise the plan and relate it to parts of the video?
- ▶ Perhaps go back over the video suggesting where each video section is on the book diagram.

1.3. Go to Textbook pages 6-7

“What’s the connection between people and mountains?”

- ▶ Turn to pages 6-7 and help children identify each of the human features.
- ▶ Flip the pages back and forth with pages 4-5 to show how mountains influence settlement, how land is used for farming, and so on.

2a. Group exploration

2.1. TG photocopiable pages 28-35



- Print out your choice of photocopiable and then, using your teacher's version and the pages in the book, get children to focus on the various aspects of a mountain environment such as peaks, valleys, roads, birds and so on. The pictures on pages 4-7 of the textbook are very detailed and children will need help in focussing on all they have to show.

2b. Literacy activity

- The workbook on Everest is a stunning way to start mountains, with the idea of trying to get to the top of the world's highest mountain without any modern gear.

Climbing Everest can be linked to Science: body (energy, lungs, heat), and to Materials (what the climbers wore).

3. Plenary session

- Get children to say what they think they have learned and present it perhaps on the whiteboard or in their own books.

4. Further work/homework

- Ask children to find out about a mountain range of their choice. This can begin a long study which underlies other topics you may do. For example, when you come to environment, children can research the environment related to the mountain range they have chosen.

The multimedia area of the Mountain topic has every mountain range in the world and also information on the main peaks of every continent.