

Unit 8 plants and animals

1. Whole class instruction

Objective: To introduce children to mountain ecosystems.



1.1. Go to Multimedia Mountain 42

“Do you know how plants and animals survive in a mountain region?”

- ▶ View the video, which gives an overview of mountain plants.

Watch videos and make notes.

1.2. Go to Textbook pages 28-29

“How do plants change as you go up a mountain?”

- ▶ Turn to page 28-29 and help to show how plants change with altitude using the diagrams.
- ▶ Children should understand that the changes occur in zones.

1.3. Go to Textbook pages 30-31

“What’s the connection between plants, weather and animals?”

- ▶ Turn to page 34-35 and help to see how a lack of plant food (due to slow growth) means that there is less to eat and so fewer animals than almost anywhere else. Most animals hibernate.
- ▶ Look at the large hunting area animals need just to survive (refer to the condor or mountain lion).

You may care to bring an ‘Alpine’ plant into the classroom (bought from a garden centre) to show first hand what the video describes.

Creative Topic books
Reindeer
Bear

2a. Group exploration

2.1. TG photocopiables pages 72 to 77

- ▶ Print out the photocopiable and ask children to complete the questions on pages 72, 74 and 76. These will reinforce the discussion you had on the textbook pages.

2b. Literacy activity

Go to Literacy>>Unit 3 Mountain lion



“Let’s find out how a particular animal survives”.

- ▶ Give out photocopies of the story, page 3.
- ▶ Ask children to understand how the mountain lion survives.
- ▶ Follow up with the rest of the literacy unit. This literacy unit relies on science habitat and food chain knowledge that has been gained in other subjects.

Issue photocopies of the story

Cross-curricular with science 4B Habitats.

Also textbook

Living Things

for food chains.

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 another animal. They might use a bear or a condor, for example. The picture on page 31 gives lots of other suggestions.
- ▶ Consider incorporating environment (textbook pages 32-33) into this topic.

Creative Topic books

Reindeer

Bear