

Landforms



Grade Level: I-3

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Classroom Procedure:

1. Ask students: What is the highest place on Earth called? What is the lowest place? What is the driest place? What is the hottest/coldest place? (or other similar questions)
2. Allow for responses and discussion. Lead discussion to the different types of landforms described by their responses.
3. Distribute *Landforms* content pages. Read and review the information with the students. Save the final question for lesson closing. Use the additional resources to enhance understanding.
4. Distribute Activity page. Read and review the instructions. Pair students. (The list of supplies may be increased using other available materials.) Encourage students to take their time and plan the location of each landform on the provided paper before beginning. They can also use the scratch paper to create mountains by forming them into coned figures using tape/glue.
5. Once completed, students will share their drawings with the class and describe at least one landform in detail to the class. Display completed drawings.
6. Distribute Practice page. Check and review the students' responses.
7. Distribute the Homework page. The next day, check and review the students' responses. For part one, ask students why the image represents each landform. Use the final part of the homework with the closing question to the lesson.
8. In closing, ask: *Which landform might be your favorite type to visit and explore?*
9. Allow for responses and discussion.

Approximate Grade Level: 1 – 3

Objectives:

The students will be able to identify and describe the physical characteristics of place such as landforms, bodies of water, natural resources, and weather; identify major landforms and bodies of water; identify and compare different landforms, including mountains, hills, valleys, and plains.

TEKS

Social Studies Grade 1: b.6.A

Social Studies Grade 2: b.6.A

Social Studies Grade 3: b.7.C

Class Sessions (45 minutes):

At least 2 class sessions.

Teaching Materials/Worksheets:

Landforms content pages (2), Activity page, Practice page, Homework page

Student Supplies:

Colored pencils, construction paper, glue or tape, scissors, string, scratch paper, and other available materials, handouts

Prepare Ahead of Time:

Supplies for activity. Pair students. Copy handouts.

Options for Lesson:

Students may work alone or in larger groups for the activity. Use additional art supplies and other materials for students to create 3D models of the different landforms. Create 10 groups, each researches and builds a different landform and presents the information and model to the class. Send a letter home to parents, solicit volunteers to speak to the class who may have visited a desert, mountain top, plateau, or other landform, sharing their experience. Choose a regular movie which may include different landforms in the background, during the movie, students can identify the landform shown on the screen. Do the practice page aloud and together as a class assignment.





Teacher Notes

The lesson introduces students to basic landforms and the characteristics of each. The students will easily identify landforms using basic vocabulary, but will need to understand the differences between each type. They may also compare/contrast each landform, plus name places where the landforms may be found. It is recommended the teacher use a world map to display and identify the various landforms throughout the world.



Additional Resources:

Content:

- <http://www.kidsgeo.com/geology-for-kids/0031-what-are-landforms.php>
- <http://www.teachjunkie.com/sciences/landforms-for-kids-activities/>
- <http://www.enchantedlearning.com/geography/landforms/glossary.shtml>
- <http://kidworldcitizen.org/2015/03/12/paper-art-landforms-for-kids/>
- <http://geography.pppst.com/landforms.html>
- <http://geography.pppst.com/landforms.html> (PPTs and more)
- <http://schooltutoring.com/help/earth-sciences-types-of-landforms/>

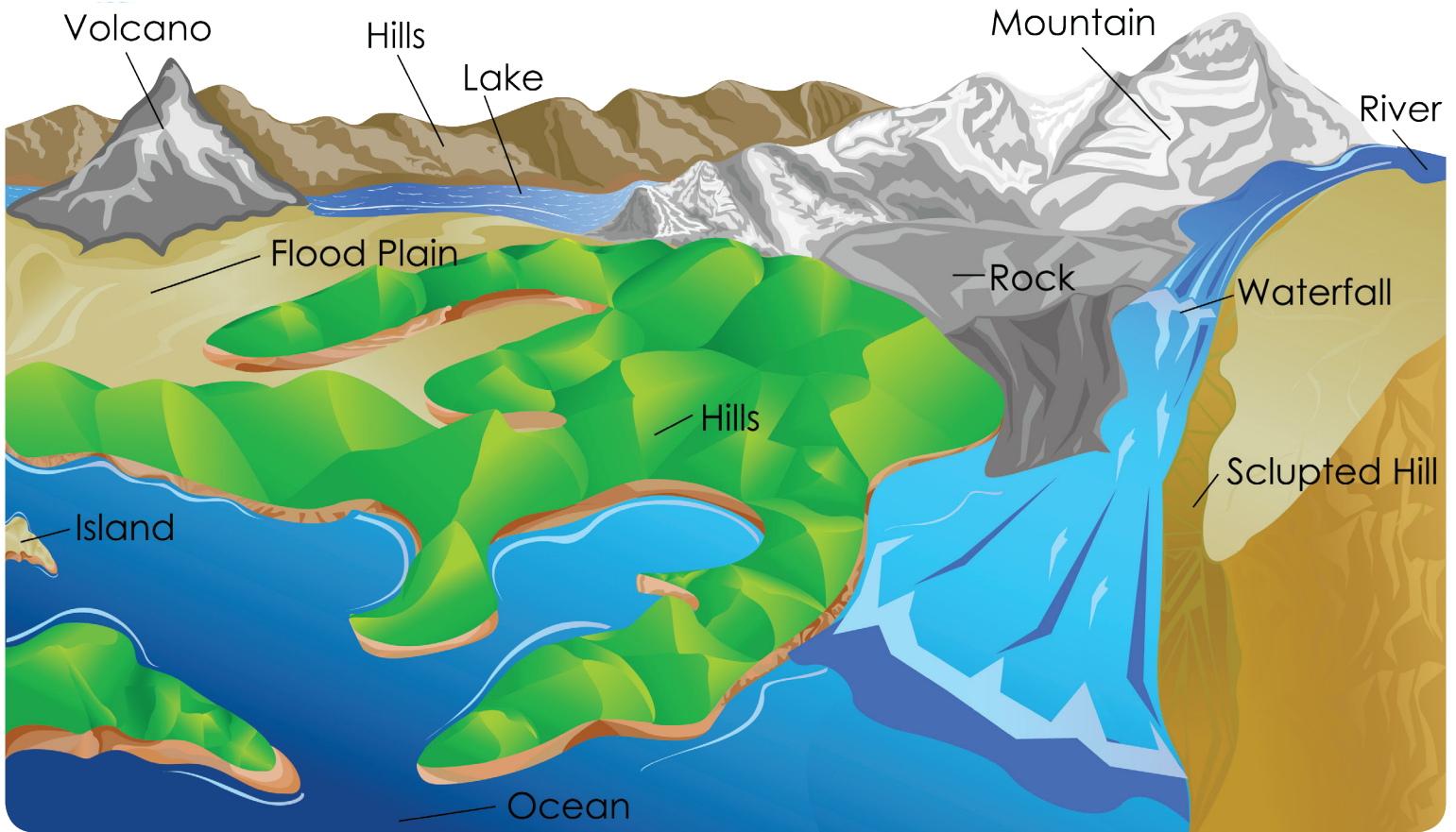
Worksheets:

- <http://jewelschoolgems.com/2016/09/05/landforms-for-kids/>
- http://bogglesworldesl.com/kids_worksheets/landforms.htm
- <http://geography.mrdonn.org/landforms.html>
- <http://www.edhelper.com/landforms.htm>
- <http://www.lessonlandiva.com/2012/10/landforms-and-bodies-of-water-freebie.html>
- <http://www.schoolofdragons.com/resources/landforms-science>
- <http://www.math4childrenplus.com/earth-science/worksheets/>

Videos:

- <https://www.flocabulary.com/unit/landforms-bodies-of-water/video/> (3 min-song)
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KWTDmg8OI_Y (5 min)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LwNfvyCXh1k> (8 min)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RCZVZeo4kW0> (3 min-text w/images)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FN6QX43QB4g> (4 min)
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BsqKTJtK_vw (10 min)





Landforms

You walk on the surface of the Earth every day. Sometimes you may walk up hills, in valleys, or swim in oceans or lakes. Throughout the world there are surfaces of the Earth defined by its landform. Landforms have different physical features such as the type of soil, water, or rocks covering the surface. Landforms are shaped by nature and take thousands or millions of years.

There are many different things that make up a landform. The **crust** is a rocky covering around the Earth. **Dirt** is a mixture of crushed rock and pieces of dead material from plants and animals which cover some of the crust. **Fossils** may also be found in the rocks or crust, which are the remains of living things. There are also **sediments** of different particles that have settled on the Earth's surface by wind, water, or ice. There are also openings in the Earth's surface called **volcanoes**, which erupt melted rocks.

These different materials make up the landforms on Earth, and some may be covered by water and others may sit high on top of a mountain, or deep in a valley.



THERE ARE ABOUT 10 TYPES OF LANDFORMS:

Type of Landform	Description	Examples
Mountain	A much higher place compared to the land around it. It is the highest landform on Earth. Usually cone-shaped with steep sides and a pointed tip called a peak . They could also be snow covered.	The Himalayas in Asia are the highest in the world. Mt. McKinley, Rocky Mountains, Appalachian Mountains and many others are found in the U.S.
Valley	A valley is a low-lying area that is usually located between mountain ranges and other higher lands. Over time valleys are formed by the rivers that have flowed down from the tops and sides of mountains.	Valleys in the United States include Death Valley in California, the Connecticut river valley, which was used by early settlers for traveling. The Ohio valley includes rivers draining into the Mississippi River.
Plain	The flat areas on the Earth's surface are called plains. Plains often are near oceans which are called coastal plains . Some plains may have gently rolling areas and may include prairies which usually includes grasslands.	The Great Plains is in the U.S. and covers many states such as Nebraska, Kansas, Montana, the Dakotas, Iowa and several others. The Western Plains of Australia is also another famous plain.
Plateau	A plateau is also a flat area but it is <u>higher</u> than the land around it. It has very steep sides and is often surrounded by rock faces called cliffs . Some are located between mountain ranges.	There are famous plateaus throughout the world including the Colorado Plateau, Yellowstone Plateau, and many others in the United States.
Island	Land that is surrounded by water is an island. Islands can be formed by volcanic eruptions in the oceans. Islands are often found near the coasts of countries.	The continent of Australia is an island. The state of Hawaii is a chain of islands. Islands in the U.S. also include Hilton Head, N.C. and Key West, Florida.
Lake	A lake is water surrounded by land. Lakes can be many different sizes and most are filled with freshwater. Millions of lakes can be found throughout the world.	Great Salt Lake in Utah is one of the rare saltwater lakes; the Great Lakes include 5 separate lakes including Lake Erie and Lake Michigan. Lakes are everywhere.



Type of Landform	Description	Examples
Ocean	They are the largest bodies of water on Earth. Each of the oceans of the world have their own characteristics. Oceans contain saltwater and sometimes are called seas.	The main oceans of the world include the Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Arctic, and Southern Ocean. An ocean touches each of the seven continents.
Coast	The area where an ocean touches the land is called a coast. Coasts often include beaches or cliffs, and are created by waves, tides and currents.	In the U.S., the Pacific Coast is in the west, the Atlantic Coast is in the East, and the Gulf Coast is in the south.
Desert	A hot and dry place with very little or no rain. They are very large and contain only a few plants due to the shortage of water. They are covered in sand, and may include dunes , which are hills of sand. Though days are very hot, nights can be extremely cold. Deserts can also be covered in ice.	Famous deserts include the Sahara Desert in North Africa, which is nearly the size of the United States. The Mohave Desert is in the Southwest of the U.S. and is home to Death Valley. Antarctica is also referred to as a desert.
River	It is a long flowing body or stream of water that flows through land into a larger body of water like a lake, an ocean, or another river. Rivers can be a part of another landform like a mountain or valley.	The largest river in the U.S. is the Mississippi River which flows through 10 different states, with many rivers flowing into it. The longest river in the world is the Nile River, 4,132 miles long, in Africa.

These are the major kinds of landforms that are located throughout the world. Landforms can change over time. For examples, rivers may get wider, mountains may get smaller, or islands may get bigger. Lakes can also dry up, coastlines may disappear following hurricanes, or new valleys may form. When you see a movie, watch a TV show, or travel, begin to recognize and identify the different landforms in the background.



Which landform might be your favorite type to visit and explore?





Activity

Name _____ Date _____

Instructions

1. Supplies: colored pencils, construction paper, glue, tape, string, scratch paper, scissors, other materials
2. There ten landforms. You will represent each landform in a drawing on one or two pieces of construction paper.
3. Use the supplies to help create the landforms.
4. The landforms must be drawn as they would appear in nature. For example, you cannot show an ocean next to a desert.
5. Use the scratch paper to design the final drawing before beginning.
6. Use one piece of construction paper or tape two pieces together for additional space.
7. Once completed with each landform drawing, label it with the type of landform and ONE place it can be found in the world.
8. Once you are completed, you will present your landforms to the class and must be able to describe one or more of the landforms.
9. Since you are working with a partner, you must cooperate with other. If you have disagreements, ask your teacher for help.

Each landform must be shown in the drawing:

Mountain

Valley

Plain

Plateau

Island

Lake

Ocean

Coast

Desert

River





Practice

Name _____ Date _____

Match the Description to the correct Landform

- | | | |
|-----------|---|-------------|
| 1. _____ | A hot and dry place with very little or no rain and very large, containing only a few plants. | A. Coast |
| 2. _____ | Flat areas on the Earth's surface and are often near oceans. | B. Desert |
| 3. _____ | Land that is surrounded by water is and can be formed by volcanic eruptions in the oceans. | C. Island |
| 4. _____ | Area where an ocean touches the land. | D. Lake |
| 5. _____ | A flat area but it is <u>higher</u> than the land around it and has very steep sides. | E. Mountain |
| 6. _____ | The largest bodies of water on Earth. | F. Ocean |
| 7. _____ | A low-lying area that is usually located between mountain ranges and other higher lands. | G. Plain |
| 8. _____ | A long flowing body or stream of water that flows through land into a larger body of water. | H. Plateau |
| 9. _____ | Water surrounded by land, can be many different sizes and most are filled with freshwater. | I. River |
| 10. _____ | A much higher place compared to the land around it. It is the highest landform on Earth. | J. Valley |

Use the word bank for each definition

Cliffs

Coastal plains

Dunes

Peak

Prairies

Located in a desert and are hills created by blowing sand. _____

The steep sides of a plateau surround by rock faces. _____

Cone-shaped, pointed tip of a mountain top. _____

A landform located near oceans. _____

Gently rolling areas which may contain grasslands. _____





Homework

Name _____ Date _____

Tell which landform each image could represent

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
6.	7.	8.	9.	10.

True or False (T or F)

_____ Volcanic eruptions can form islands.

_____ A lake is only freshwater.

_____ A valley is higher than a mountain.

_____ Fossils, dirt, and crust is part of land.

_____ Islands and coasts are near water.

_____ The longest river is the Nile River.

_____ A prairie can be a plain.

_____ There are hundreds of lakes in the world.

List the Landforms from your favorite to least favorite

1.	6.
2.	7.
3.	8.
4.	9.
5.	10.





Match the Description to the correct Landform

- | | | | |
|--------------|---|-----------|-----------------|
| 1. B | A hot and dry place with very little or no rain and very large, containing only a few plants. | A. | Coast |
| 2. G | Flat areas on the Earth's surface and are often near oceans. | B. | Desert |
| 3. C | Land that is surrounded by water is and can be formed by volcanic eruptions in the oceans. | C. | Island |
| 4. A | Area where an ocean touches the land. | D. | Lake |
| 5. H | A flat area but it is <u>higher</u> than the land around it and has very steep sides. | E. | Mountain |
| 6. F | The largest bodies of water on Earth. | F. | Ocean |
| 7. J | A low-lying area that is usually located between mountain ranges and other higher lands. | G. | Plain |
| 8. I | A long flowing body or stream of water that flows through land into a larger body of water. | H. | Plateau |
| 9. D | Water surrounded by land, can be many different sizes and most are filled with freshwater. | I. | River |
| 10. E | A much higher place compared to the land around it. It is the highest landform on Earth. | J. | Valley |

Use the word bank for each definition

- | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|--------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Cliffs | Coastal plains | Dunes | Peak | Prairies |
| Located in a desert and are hills created by blowing sand. Dunes | | | | |
| The steep sides of a plateau surround by rock faces. Cliffs | | | | |
| Cone-shaped, pointed tip of a mountain top. Peak | | | | |
| A landform located near oceans. Coastal Plains | | | | |
| Gently rolling areas which may contain grasslands. Prairies | | | | |





Homework

Name _____ **Answer Key** _____ Date _____

Tell which landform each image could represent

1. Plain	2. Island	3. Mountain	4. Plateau	5. Valley
6. Coast	7. River	8. Lake	9. Desert	10. Ocean

True or False (T or F)

 T Volcanic eruptions can form islands.

 F A lake is only freshwater.

 F A valley is higher than a mountain.

 T Fossils, dirt, and crust is part of land.

 T Islands and coasts are near water.

 T The longest river is the Nile River.

 T A prairie can be a plain.

 F There are hundreds of lakes in the world.

List the Landforms from your favorite to least favorite

1.	6.
2.	7.
3.	8.
4.	9.
5.	10.

