



CartoCrazel

Expanded Map Workshops This PDF file of the APPALACHIAN MOUNTAINS is © Copyright 2015, Map of the Month P. O. Box 2484 Providence, RI 02906 888 876 6277 www.mapsfortheclassroom.com



This vista of the beautiful Valley of the Ten Peaks, in the Canadian Rockies, is a fine example of why mountains inspire our sense of wonder!

The height of mountains are measured from sea level. Low altitude mountains can support vegetation year round and the highest peaks have only snow and cold. Mountains are home to a wide variety of plants and animals, and humans have adapted to living around and on mountains.

This presentation is an introduction to the DENALI, one of the world's great mountains, with some information about mapping, geography, people and animals of this mountainous region.

People throughout human history have been fascinated with mountains. Their majesty and size fills us with wonder! Mountains have inspired religion and mythology. They are the setting for stories, tall tales and literature. Men and women have set out on adventures and accomplish epic feats in mountainous terrain. For the average person, they provide places for sport activities and vacations!

A mountain is one of our planet's major landforms. A group of mountains forms what is called a range. Mountains are areas of earth that rise up sharply in peaks or mounded shapes, with different elevations.

Mountains can be small or large, and are formed in several ways. When the tectonic plates of the earth's surface move towards each other and crumble, they caused the earth to rise in peaks. When this movement of plates allow the hot magma beneath the earth's surface to rise up, volcanic peaks are formed.

MOUNTAIN TERMS AND THEIR DEFINITIONS

It is impossible to talk about MOUNTAINS, or learn about them, without knowing some terms that relate to MOUNTAINS. Here are just a few terms! Can you come up with other terms related to mountains?

RANGE A range is a group of mountains that are geographically related. Sometimes a large mountain range is made up of many smaller ranges.

SUMMIT The highest point of a mountain.

ELEVATION The elevation of a place is often described as its height above sea level. A mountain's elevation is determined by its highest point, or summit.

SEA LEVEL This is a base measurement for determining the height of mountains. The seas and oceans of the world vary slightly in height due to weather and geography so Sea Level is an average called "Local Mean Sea Level."

RIDGE A chain of mountains whose upper section form a continuous line over a distance.



The following presentation is an introduction to the APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN RANGE with guidelines about making a map, as well as some information about its geography, people and animals.





The Appalachian Mountains

The Appalachians are a great North American mountain range, extending from Newfoundland, in the country of Canada, to the southern state of Alabama in the United States. The deep mountainous ridges of this range run north to south. Scientists speculate that this feature encouraged migration of animals from north to south in the prehistoric era. This was also a physical feature that delayed westward movement in the colonial days of early America.

Some of the smaller ranges that make up this large range are the White Mountains, Green Mountains and the Berkshires in the North, the Taconic Mountains in the central area, and the Blue Ridge Mountains and Cumberland Plateau in the south.

HOW THE TRAIL CAME TO BE!



Mount Katahdin's Hunt Spur, at the beginning of the Appalachian Trail The Appalachian Trail was an idea that emerged in the 1920's. The plan was to organize rural farms and camps along the length of the Appalachian Mountains to give urban dwellers a chance to get away from the cities.

This early idea never took hold, mostly due to the huge size of the project. Gradually over time, trailblazers worked the mountain range to open up walking spaces. Finally the trail become a continuous "wilderness" footpath in 1937.

Now the Appalachian Trail is an estimated length of 2,175 miles from Springer Mountain in Georgia, to Baxter Peak on Katahdin in central Maine.

Hikers walk for pleasure, exercise and sometimes extreme physical challenges! The trail ranges in difficulty, from flat and smooth to very strenuous climbs requiring scrambling in rocks and leaping! Also the trail allows hikers to enjoy the beauty of the terrain and to witness many species of animals.





Write a small essay or poem about a long walk or a hike you have taken. Who was with you? What was your starting point? When did you do it? Where was your destination? Why did you do this?

The Georgia Appalachian Trail Club commemorated their love of the trail with this plaque:

"Appalachian TRAIL, Georgia to Maine. A footpath of those who seek Fellowship in the Wilderness"

YONAHLOSSEE SALAMANDER

The Yonahlossee Salamander is found primarily in the southern Appalachian Mountains of the United States. They are a special type of salamander that has no lungs! They breathe through their skin and the tissue in their mouths. They are known by the large red blotches on their black bodies. Younger salamanders usually have more red blotches: in the older ones salamanders the blotches tend to blur together into one large band. These red markings can be found on their bellies too!

They live in woodland areas, in logs, and stumps and burrows. These shelters provide protection from predators like birds and small mammals. They have a unique way of escaping from predators. The can secrete a noxious substance that deters their enemies.

These salamanders are carnivorous and feast on spiders, millipedes and EARTHWORMS!

I would be a tasty treat for him!



VOCABULARY WORDS Turn your map over and define these words underground migration noxious secretion humid deciduous lungless ravine terrestrial pigment SPELLING WORDS hillside groove blotch elevation underground pollution predator locale defend dorsal



COLOR AND LABEL THE MAP, BOTH LANDFORMS AND WATER.

ADD A <u>COMPASS ROSE</u> TO YOUR MAP! COLOR THE YONAHLOSSEE SALAMANDER





DANIEL BOONE

Daniel Boone Escorting Settlers through the Cumberland Gap, oil painting on canvas, 1851-1852, Painting by George Caleb Bingham



George Caleb Bingham was a famous American painter. He captured many famous events and people in his work. Research to find out about him and other places and events he depicted.

In 1775 Daniel Boone was the first to blaze a trail through the Cumberland Gap in the Appalachians.

Boone's efforts allowed people to move beyond the Appalachians into the Kentucky and Virginia, areas west of the range. This trail further developed into the Wilderness Road, which for fifty years was the route most taken for pioneers moving east to west. Even though the Trail was steep and treacherous, thousands of people on foot and horseback used it to "Go West."



MOUNTAIN READING LIST!

World Above the Clouds: A Story of a Himalayan Ecosystem by Ann Whitehead Nagda

High in the snow-covered Himalayan peaks of northern India, a snow leopard has left the care of her mother and now must hunt and fend for herself. In the first few days alone she competes for her meals with a red fox, a bearded vulture, and even nearby villagers.



HEIDI by Joanna Spyri

At the age of five, little orphan Heidi is sent to live with her grandfather in the Alps. Everyone in the village is afraid of him, but Heidi is fascinated by his long beard and bushy grey eyebrows. She loves her life in the mountains, playing in the sunshine and growing up amongst the goats and birds. But one terrible day, Heidi is collected by her aunt and is made to live with a new family in town. Heidi can't bear to be away from her grandfather; can she find a way back up the mountain, where she belongs?





UP ON DENALI by Shelley Gill and Shannon Cartwright

From its origins as a trick played by Raven (the scientific version involving plate tectonics is also included) to the flora and fauna and human explorations, this colorful children's book reveals every facet of Alaska's great Denali Mountain. This book is full of fun and fascinating information.

MY SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN

by Jean Craighead George

Sam Gribley is unhappy living in New York City with his family, so he runs away to the Catskill Mountains to live in the wood, by himself. With only a penknife, a ball of cord, forty dollars, and some flint and steel, he intends to survive on his own.

Sam learns about courage, danger, and independence during his year in the wilderness, a year that changes his life forever.



ntal Divid and Robert Gray also explored unknown parts of the West from the Mississippi all the way to Alaska.

Label the states east of the Mississippi River at the time of the Louisiana Purchase.

East Side Station, P. O. Box 2484, Providence RI 02906 www.mapofthemonth.com



