

Landforms: Reading Comprehension



Look at a globe. You'll see most of it is colored blue. That shows Earth's oceans. Oceans are big areas of salty water. There are five oceans. The large pieces of land are called continents. There are seven continents.

You will see small bits of land on the globe, too. An island is a small area of land that has water all around it. Australia is a large island that is both an island and a continent.

Different landforms were formed in different ways. There are mountains and valleys. Mountains are tall and rocky land. They have high elevation. Elevation means the distance above or below sea level. Mountains often have pointed tops called peaks.

Valleys are the lower land between mountains or hills. Hills are raised, rounded pieces of land that are smaller than mountains.

Plains are large, mostly flat areas of land. Plateaus are higher areas of land that rise steeply from the land around them. They are mostly flat on top. These areas were pushed up by forces inside the Earth. Lakes are bodies of freshwater. They are surrounded by land. The Great Lakes were formed by ice about 10,000 years ago. The Great Lakes are found on the northern border of Canada and the United States.

Earth also features many forests. Forests are areas of land that feature many trees and plants. There are different types of forests all over the world. People often call forests the "woods" because of the large amount of trees.

Deserts are unlike forests. They are dry, hot, and sandy places that often cover a large amount of land and have little to no water. You find many deserts in the Middle East and African countries. The largest desert in the world can be found in Africa stretching over 9 million kilometers. It's called the Sahara Desert and covers most of northern Africa.



Landforms: Reading Comprehension

Using sentences, answer the following questions based on the information given.

1. Most of the globe is blue because it is covered in:

2. The difference between a mountain and a hill is:

3. A plain is:

4. A plateau is:

5. What is an island? Explain using sentences.

6. Where are the Great Lakes located?



7. How are deserts and forests different? Explain using sentences.

8. Draw and label 3 landforms: