

Life in the Zone

Rangers in the Classroom—Post-visit Lesson Plan



Grade Level: 4th

Setting: Classroom

Duration: 1 - 2 hours

Standards Addressed:

- ° Life Science:
3.a, 3.b, 3.c
- ° Visual and Performing
Arts:
2.5, 2.8

Introduction:

Thank you for joining us on an exciting adventure into the world of life zones with our Life in the Zone program. We created this post-visit activity to review, reinforce and enrich your students' understanding of what life is like in the different life zones found in Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. Please refer to the program outline we provided during our visit to your class for additional sources of information. We hope you enjoyed the ranger visit and invite us back soon. Have fun!

Materials:

- ° "Life Zone Mural" worksheet
- ° Pen or pencil
- ° Butcher paper - 3 six-foot sections (6 if making two murals)
- ° Markers or colored pencils

Instructions:

1. Lay out three mural sections side by side.
2. Sketch an outline of the Sierra-Nevada Mountains in a cross-section. (see example on next page)
3. Break students into 3 or 6 groups, assign each group either the foothills, montane, or alpine life zone.
4. Have students complete the worksheet for their assigned life zone.
5. Pass out butcher paper to each group.
6. Have students illustrate two types of animal life and two types of plant life that lives in their zone.
7. Have students illustrate the climate within their life zone.
8. Upon completion have students present their murals to the class including a short oral report.
9. Assist students into taping the three sections together to make a large life zone mural for the classroom.

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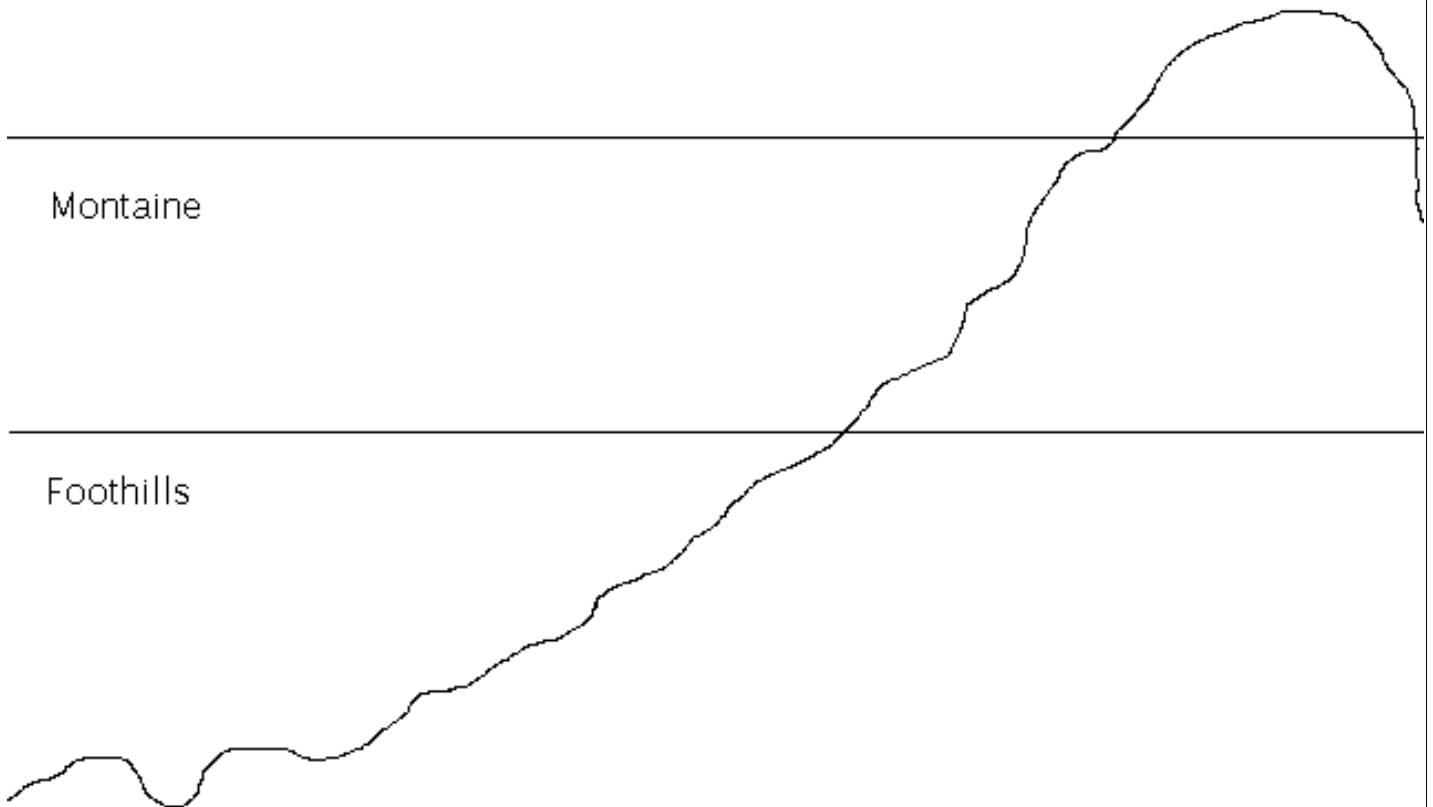


Life Zones Mural Example

Alpine

Montaine

Foothills



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Life Zone Mural



1. What is the name of your life zone?
2. What is the weather like in your life zone during the summer?
3. What is the weather like in your life zone during the winter?
4. List and draw some of the plants that live in your life zone.
5. List some of the animals that call your life zone home.
6. What does the landscape of your life zone look like? (e.g. rolling hills, forest of big trees, rocky mountain peaks).
7. Based on the landscape of your life zone, which colors would you expect to see most often there?

Use this information to draw out your life zone. Label the plants and animals you expect to find there. Add the weather you expect to experience during the summer season.