

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

### Exploring Landforms

Have you ever seen a mountain, a valley, or a river? These are all called landforms.

Landforms are the natural shapes and features we see on Earth's surface. They are created by nature and can be found all over the world.

**Mountains** are tall and rocky. They rise high above the land around them. Some mountains have snowy tops, while others are covered in trees. Mount Everest is the tallest mountain in the world!

**Valleys** are low areas between hills or mountains. Sometimes, rivers flow through valleys. Valleys can be wide and flat or narrow and deep.

**Rivers** are long, flowing bodies of water. They often start in the mountains and travel to the oceans. Rivers bring water to plants, animals, and people.

**Plains** are large, flat areas of land. They are great places for growing crops because their soil is rich and deep. Many farms are found on plains.

**Deserts** are dry and sandy places. They get very little rain, so only certain plants and animals can live there. The world's largest desert is the Sahara in Africa.

There are many other landforms, such as hills, islands, and lakes. Each landform is special and helps make Earth an interesting place to live!

#### Comprehension Questions

1. What is a landform?
  - a) A kind of animal
  - b) A natural shape or feature on Earth's surface
  - c) A type of weather
2. Where are valleys usually found?
3. Name two landforms that have water.
4. Why are plains good places for farms?
5. What makes deserts different from other landforms?