Lesson: New Hampshire's Mountains

(To follow Amplify CKLA 4, Unit 5: Geology, Lesson 12: Mountains)

At a Glance

In this lesson, students use non-fiction text, audio recordings, and primary sources to learn about two of New Hampshire's most well-known peaks: Mount Washington and Mount Monadnock.

Primary Focus Objectives

- Students will read non-fiction text and listen to audio recordings about the formation, location, and features of New Hampshire mountains.
- Students will interpret and organize information from the reading and recordings.
- Students will create an informative postcard about one of the mountains.

Formative Assessment

- Completion of worksheet and Venn diagram
- Completion of postcard

Standards

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.4.3
Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text, including what happened and why, based on specific information in the text.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.4
Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

Materials

- Vocabulary Card: Glaciers
- Optional: Explainer Video: "Mason Explains: Glaciers in New Hampshire"
- Focus Text: Unit 1: New Hampshire Geography, Learn It! "NH's Physical Characteristics," p. 2
- "Mountains of Facts" worksheet
- Audio recording: "Mason Presents: Fritz Wetherbee on Mount Washington"
  Audio recording: "Mason Presents: Fritz Wetherbee on Mount Monadnock"
- "Comparing Mountains Venn" diagram
- Optional: Primary Source Set: Mount Washington
- Postcard template; markers

Time Needed

Two 30-40 minute class sessions

Learning Activity

1. **Review Vocabulary card.** Project or distribute the Vocabulary Card. Review the material with students. Show the Explainer Video if students need more background information about glaciers and their impact on New Hampshire's landscape. (*10 minutes)*

2. **Preview and read Focus Text.** Help students navigate to page 2 of Unit 1, Learn It! "NH's Physical Characteristics." Identify headings, key words, and images. Indicate the other clickable features on the page where students can find more information. *(10 minutes)*

3. **Complete worksheet.** Distribute "Mountains of Facts" worksheet and give time for students to complete it. Review as a whole group. *(10 minutes)*

This is a good place to pause if dividing the lesson across two sessions.

4. **Listen to audio recordings and complete Venn diagram.** Distribute Venn diagrams and explain to students that while they listen to brief audio recordings, they should begin filling in the diagram. Give students time after listening to complete the diagrams with details about what makes each mountain unique and what they have in common. It may help to listen to the recordings more than once. They may also refer back to the reading. *(15 minutes)*

5. **(Optional) Examine the primary source set.** Consider printing multiple copies of Primary Source Set: Mount Washington for students to analyze using one of the suggested activities. *(20 minutes)*

6. **Create postcards.** Provide students with postcard templates and guide them to use the details learned from the reading and audio recordings to write a descriptive, informative postcard to a friend from one of the two peaks. On the other side, students should create an illustration to set the scene for their postcard. *(25 minutes)*

Educator Rationale and Answer Guide

Connection to Amplify

This lesson extends skills and concepts covered in Amplify Grade 4, Unit 5: Geology, Lesson 12: Mountains. Having learned about how mountains around the world are formed and changed, this lesson encourages students to focus on two peaks in New Hampshire, how they were formed, and why they continue to be important to the state today. Students continue to develop non-fiction reading and analysis skills and apply their understanding to writing a brief piece of descriptive and informative writing.

Complete worksheet

1. White Mountain; 2. One-third; 3. Mount Washington, 6,288; 4. 300, 48; 5. Appalachian Range; 6. Mount Monadnock; 7. glaciers

See answer key provided.

Complete Venn diagram

Students will focus on a range of details. Ensure they understand that: both mountains are in New Hampshire, are significant tourist attractions, and are the highest peaks in their region of the state; snow has been found on Mount Washington in every month of the year, is taller (6,288 feet), has hurricane force winds, is the tallest peak in the northeast, and has an auto road, trails, and a railway to the summit; Mount Monadnock stands alone, surrounded by terrain flattened by glaciers, is the most-climbed mountain in the world, has a permanently tree-less summit because of a fire.

Create postcard

Encourage students to refer to the worksheet and Venn diagram, and, if using the primary source set material, to write detailed descriptions of the mountain they choose. Responses will vary but should include details about where the mountain is located, its features, and what makes it unique. After they finish writing, students can cut out the template along the dotted line and draw a detailed illustration on the reverse side.

GLACIER

Part of speech: noun

Definition: A large mass of ice that also contains dirt, rocks, and other debris

How to use it: The melting **glacier** left behind a field of rocks as it moved.

Mountains of Facts

Select from the word bank below to complete the facts

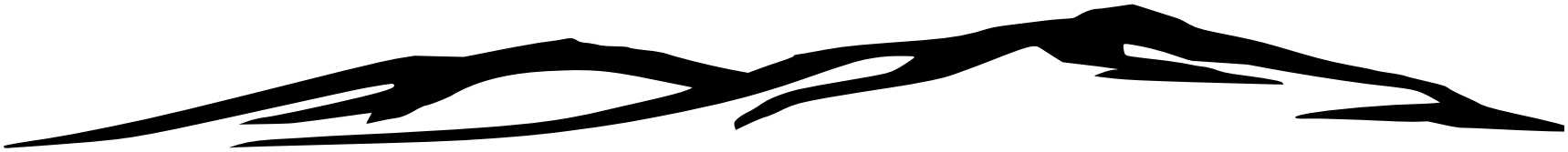
1. The _____ Range got its name from 17th-century English settlers who viewed the mountains from their settlements on New Hampshire's coast.
2. The White Mountain Range covers _____ of New Hampshire's land.
3. The tallest mountain in the White Mountains is _____. At _____ feet, it is the tallest mountain in the northeastern United States.
4. In New Hampshire, there are nearly _____ mountains between 1,000 feet and 4,000 feet tall. The White Mountains have _____ peaks that are over 4,000 feet tall.
5. The White Mountain Range is part of the _____, which stretches along the eastern United States from Georgia to Maine.
6. _____ is not part of the White Mountains; it is located in southeastern New Hampshire and is 3,165 feet tall.
7. Mountains in New Hampshire were formed by _____ moving across the land as they melted.

glaciers	Appalachian Range	Mount Washington
48	300	one-third
Mount Monadnock	White Mountain	6,288

Mountains of Facts (answer key)

Select from the word bank below to complete the facts

1. The _____**White Mountain**_____ Range got its name from 17th-century English settlers who viewed the mountains from their settlements on New Hampshire's coast.
2. The White Mountain Range covers _**one-third**_____ of New Hampshire's land.
3. The tallest mountain in the White Mountains is __**Mount Washington**_____. At **6,288**__ feet, it is the tallest mountain in the northeastern United States.
4. In New Hampshire, there are nearly __**300**_____ mountains between 1,000 feet and 4,000 feet tall. The White Mountains have _____**48**_____ peaks that are over 4,000 feet tall.
5. The White Mountain Range is part of the __**Appalachian Range**_____, which stretches along the eastern United States from Georgia to Maine.
6. **Mount Monadnock**_____ is not part of the White Mountains; it is located in southeastern New Hampshire and is 3,165 feet tall.
7. Mountains in New Hampshire were formed by __**glaciers**_____ moving across the land as they melted.



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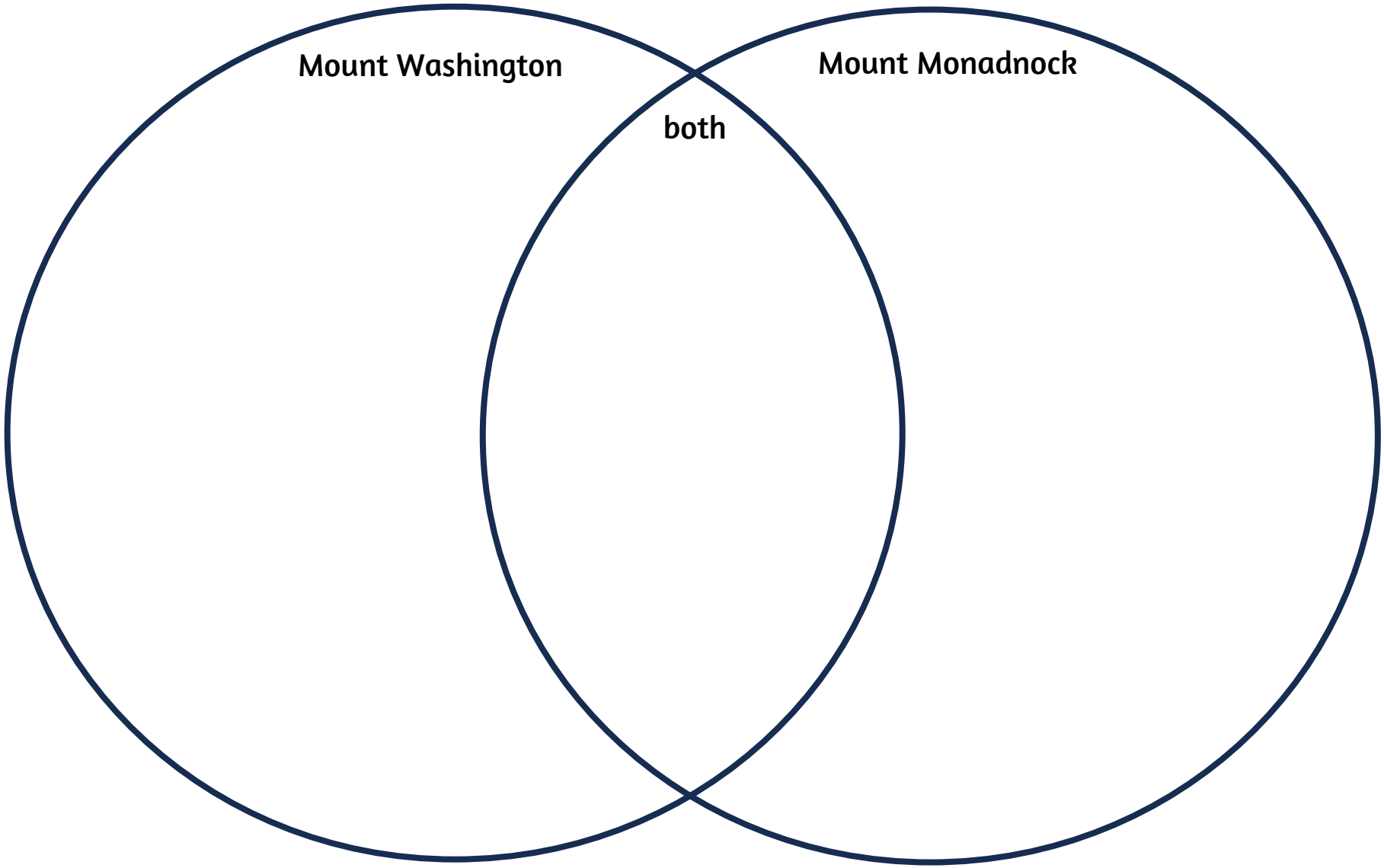
Mount Monadnock	White Mountain	6,288

Comparing Mountains



Mountain Postcard Template