

Name _____

Wild Landscapes Answer Key

1. Volcanoes help scientists by showing layers of lava and landforms that reveal how the continent has changed over time.
2. Glaciers shape the land by carving valleys, creating deep lakes, and reshaping mountains as they move.
3. Examples: cacti store water, animals stay underground during heat, or plants and animals adapt to dry conditions.
4. Forests clean the air, protect soil, and provide habitats for many species.
5. They include very different environments such as volcanoes, glaciers, deserts, and forests that each show unique features.

Teacher's Guide

Purpose: This worksheet helps students in grades 4 to 7 explore major natural features of North America while practicing reading comprehension and short-response writing.

Instruction Tips

- Preview vocabulary such as dormant, glacier, adapt, and ecosystem.
- Read aloud or assign partner reading to support comprehension.
- Encourage students to highlight key details about each natural feature.

Differentiation

- Provide sentence starters for students who need writing support.
- Offer a simplified version of the passage for students with reading challenges.
- Challenge advanced learners to add a paragraph describing another natural wonder not included in the passage.

Engagement Ideas

- Show maps or images of volcanoes, glaciers, deserts, and forests before reading.
- Have students compare two natural wonders in a brief discussion.
- Create a four-corner activity where each corner represents one natural wonder.