

AmplifyScience

Landform Postcards

by Chloë Delafield



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These materials are based upon work partially supported by the National Science Foundation under grant numbers DRL-1119584, DRL-1417939, ESI-0242733, ESI-0628272, ESI-0822119. The Federal Government has certain rights in this material. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.

These materials are based upon work partially supported by the Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education, through Grant R305A130610 to The Regents of the University of California. The opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not represent views of the Institute or the U.S. Department of Education.



Developed by the Learning Design Group at the University of California, Berkeley's Lawrence Hall of Science.

Amplify Science Elementary is based on the *Seeds of Science/Roots of Reading*[®] approach, which is a collaboration between a science team led by Jacqueline Barber and a literacy team led by P. David Pearson.

www.scienceandliteracy.org

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Grade 2
Landform Postcards
ISBN: 978-1-945191-59-6

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SAMPLE

About Landforms

Hi, my name is Annie. This book is about a road trip I took this summer. We drove across the United States. My grandpa is a **geologist**. He taught me about **landforms**. Landforms are parts of Earth's **surface** like mountains, valleys, and cliffs. Grandpa thought it would be fun for me to **observe** landforms around the country. I sent him postcards of what I saw.

Here are some things Grandpa taught me about landforms: Anywhere you go on Earth, you will see landforms. Unless you are reading this book in the middle of the ocean, you can probably find a landform near you. Even in a city, you can find landforms.



This picture has lots of different landforms. It has a beach, an island, a peninsula, and some hills.



Here we are about to leave on our trip. That's me in the middle and my little sister on the right.

Grandpa also taught me that landforms are made of rock. They can have other things on top, like sand, dirt, or even ice. Some landforms may be common where you live. Others may only be found far away. Keep reading to find out what landforms I saw on my trip!



This is the route we took around the country.

Plains

Dear Grandpa,

Pretty soon after we left the city, everything looked different. The land was flat all around us for miles. Some people might think it was boring, but not me! I knew that even the flat plain is a landform. I remembered that landforms are made of rock. I pictured rock under the grass. That was neat to think about.

Love, Annie



Grandpa
1745 Hillvale St.
Madison, WI
53705



SAMPLE

We drove across the Great Plains for a long time.

Mesas

Dear Grandpa,

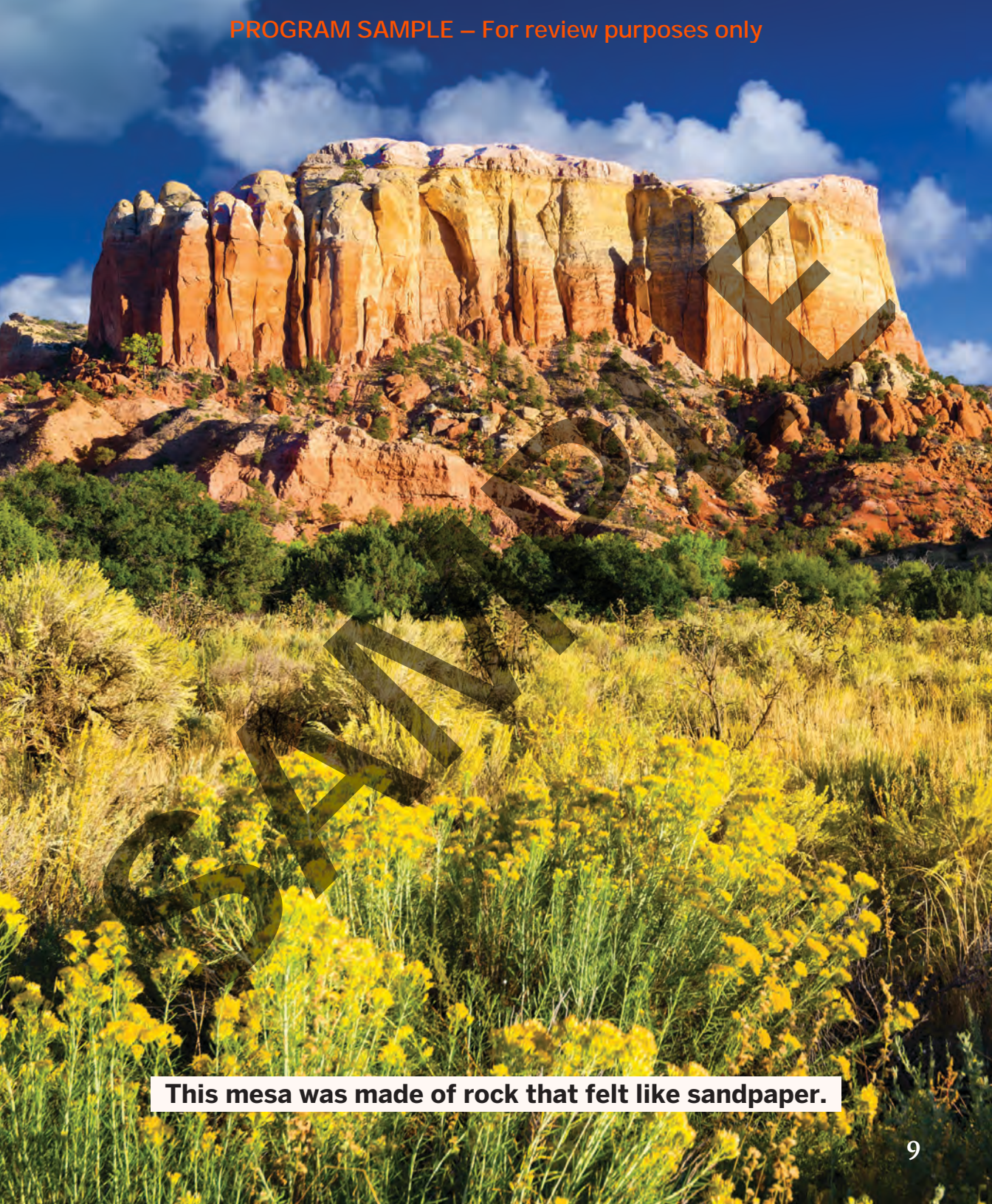
I learned that "mesa" means "table" in Spanish. That makes sense. A mesa is a landform that is flat on top like a table. Here in the Southwest the mesas are made out of red, orange, and yellow rock. This is what I picture Mars looks like!

Love, Annie



Grandpa
1745 Hillvale St.
Madison, WI
53705





This mesa was made of rock that felt like sandpaper.

Canyons

Dear Grandpa,

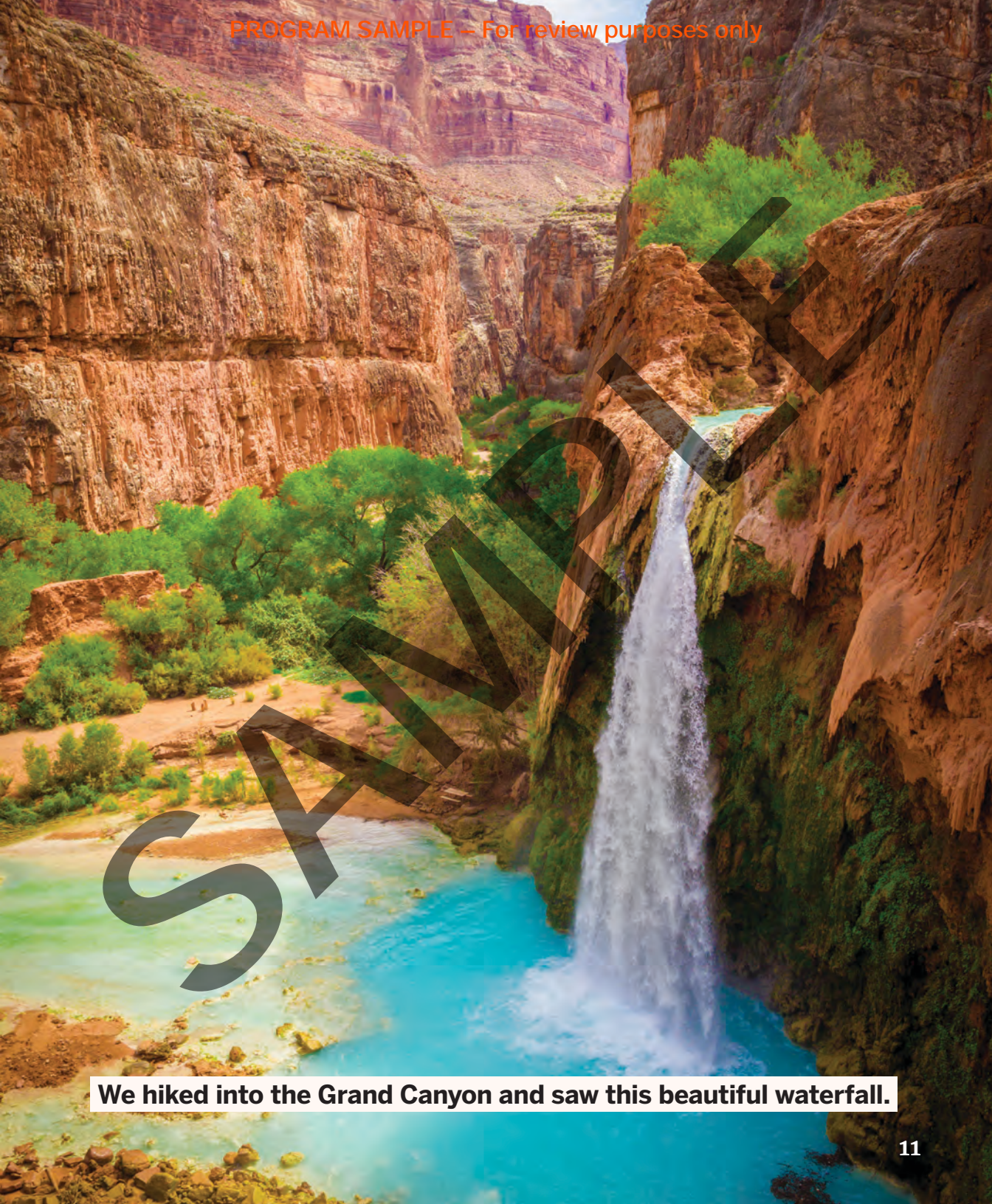
The Grand Canyon is so huge I can hardly believe it! The sides are like big tall cliffs made of rock. I could see the river way down at the bottom. It looked small and calm from far away. I could still picture the big river moving fast through the canyon.

Love, Annie



Grandpa
1745 Hillvale St.
Madison, WI
53705





We hiked into the Grand Canyon and saw this beautiful waterfall.

Beaches

Dear Grandpa,

We finally made it to the coast!
The beaches here are so pretty. We
walked on this sandy beach. I even
went swimming in the ocean! I saw
this huge rock with a hole in it. Is
that a landform, too?

Love, Annie



Grandpa
1745 Hillvale St.
Madison, WI
53705



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I observed the beach carefully. It was made up of tiny pieces of sand.

Mountains

Dear Grandpa,

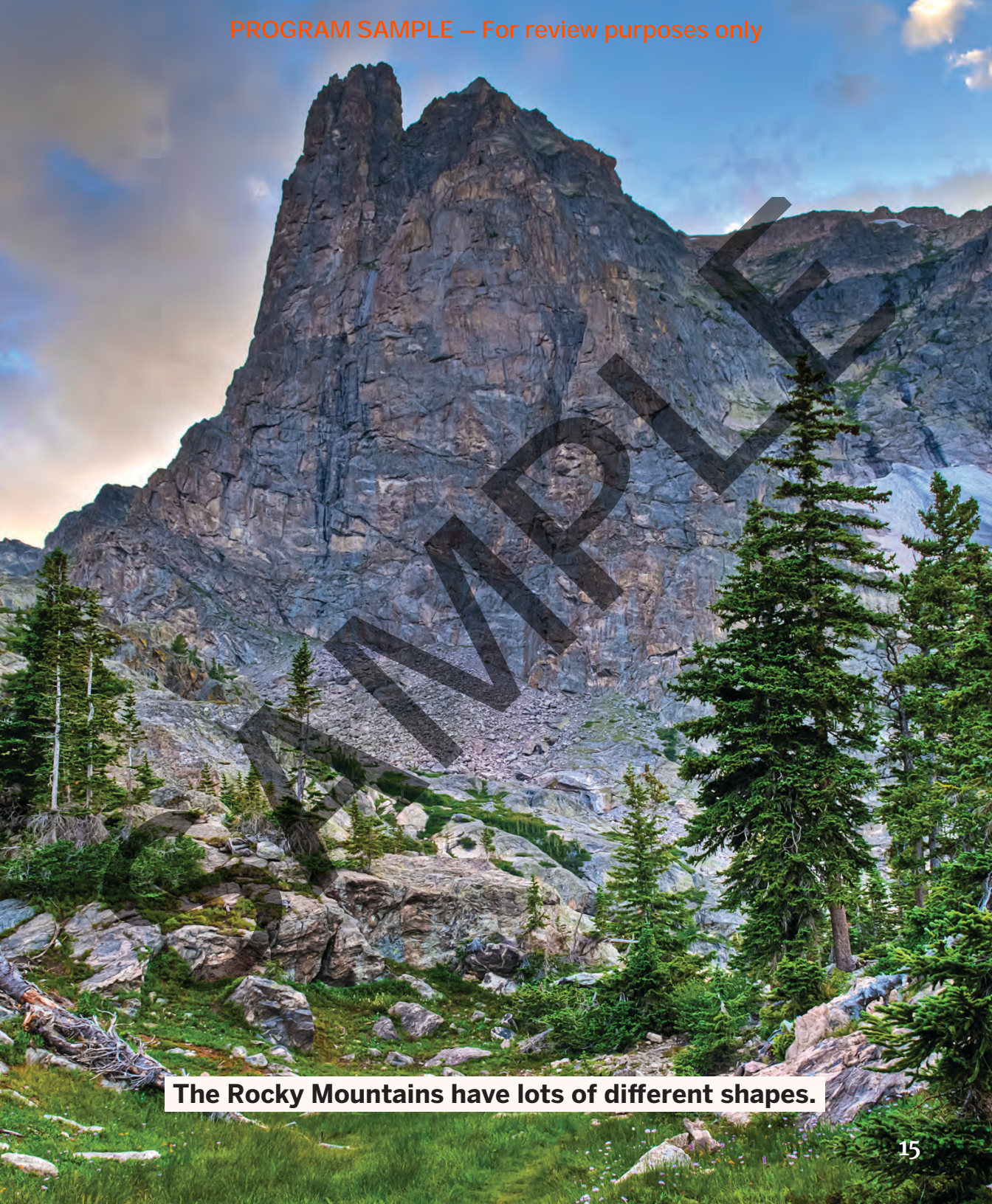
The Rockies are the biggest mountains I have ever seen. We went hiking. I felt like we were walking uphill forever. Even so, we didn't get near the top of the mountain. There is still snow up in the mountains even though it's summer. I bet there's tons of snow in the winter!

Love, Annie



Grandpa
1745 Hillvale St.
Madison, WI
53705





The Rocky Mountains have lots of different shapes.

Peninsulas

Dear Grandpa,

I think this picture is cool because it shows a lot of landforms. It has a rocky beach, an island, and some hills. It also shows two peninsulas in the background. We walked all the way out onto a peninsula. I could see the water on both sides of us.

Love, Annie



Grandpa
1745 Hillvale St.
Madison, WI
53705



SAMPLE

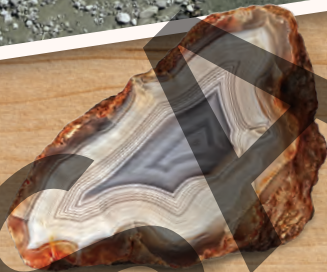
I saw this rock sticking out into one of the Great Lakes. I'm going to ask Grandpa if it's a peninsula.

Landforms I Saw Around the Country





Here are some pictures I took on my road trip. I wonder what Grandpa knows about these landforms.









Glossary

geologist: a scientist who studies the solid part of Earth

landform: a feature of Earth's surface, such as a mountain, a cliff, or a valley

observe: to use any of the five senses to gather information about something

surface: the outside part of something

SAMPLE

Books for *Changing Landforms*:

Landform Postcards
Gary's Sand Journal
What's Stronger?
Making Models of Streams
Handbook of Land and Water

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Photographs: Cover (background, l, br, leaves, flowers, rock), Pages 1 (background, l, br, leaves, flowers, rock), 5 (t), 6 (tr), 8, 10–12, 14, 15, 16 (tr), 18 (insets), 20, 21 (background, tl, tm, bl, br), 22–23: Shutterstock; Cover (tr), Pages 1 (tr), 6 (b), 7, 19 (b inset): Thinkstock/Stockbyte/Getty Images; Cover (shell), Pages 1 (shell), 21 (shell): Alexander Raths/Photos.com; Pages 4, 16 (b), 19 (t inset): Design Pic/Susan Dykstra/Getty; Page 9: Dean Fikar/Moment/Getty Images; Page 13: Jupiterimages/Photos.com; Page 17: RiverNorthPhotography/E+/Getty Images

Changing Landforms

Visit landforms around the country!

Annie is driving around the United States with her family. Wherever she goes, she sees landforms. She sends her grandpa postcards about all the landforms she sees. Learn about mesas, canyons, mountains, and more with Annie.



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