Identifying Landforms
Physical Geography
Grade Levels 3-4

Objectives: In order to understand the essential question of, “How can photographs illustrate landforms?” students review definitions of geographic landform terms on-line and apply their knowledge to images of local landforms. Students use computer software to label images and post their work to a virtual bulletin board.

Time Needed: 1 hour

Vermont’s Framework of Standards and Learning Opportunities:

6.7 Geography Students use geographical knowledge and images of various places...

Grade Level Expectations:

History & Social Studies 3-4:11 Physical Geography (interpret geography)
Information Technology 3-4:1 Basic Operations (use software and networks)
Information Technology 3-4:3 Productivity Tools (combine images, text, and non-text elements)

Interdisciplinary Connections: Earth Science

Materials & Resources:

Landscape Change Program Archive, www.uvm.edu/perkins/landscape
Images: LS08672_000 & 001, LS07146, LS11451, and LS01892 (print version optional)
Software: Publisher or Word
School computer network to store assignments and documents
Student Worksheet (below)

Activities:

1. Hook Your Students
Explore the interactive web site at www.harcourtschool.com/glossary/horizons/ and examine historical photograph prints.

2. Introduce Concepts

3. Apply Skills
Identify and label geographic landforms on four local landscape photographs (students should have prior experience with Publisher or Word, text boxes, and object tool bar). See example below.

4. Culminating Activity
Post final product (labeled images) on virtual bulletin board.

5. Assessment
Rubric. Standards are Exceeded, Met, or No evidence. Points assigned based on number of landforms identified.

6. Extensions
Students search the Landscape Change Program website to find examples of landforms.

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Identifying Landforms
Student Worksheet

Go to the website below:
http://www.harcourtschool.com/glossary/horizons/.

Explore the site. You can find the definition of a geographic term by clicking on the word on the map, or the word on the side. Use the bottom arrows to move the map. Use the alphabet on the top of the map to go to a definition of a term. Make sure you understand the definitions of the terms below.

Hill    Lake    Mountain    Valley
Riverbank Foothill Stream Channel
Range    Shore    Valley Peninsula
Island   Wetlands River Rapids

Assignment:
1. Open the Publisher Document “Geographic Features” in the class folder on the network.
2. Look over the 4 landscape photographs.
3. Label as many of the geographic features in the photographs as you can.
   a. Create a text box for the name of the feature
   b. Connect it to the feature in the photograph with an arrow.
   c. You receive one point for every feature identified.
      i. 15 pts. Expert, 10 pts. Intermediate, 5 pts. novice
4. When finished save the document to your social studies folder and print out a copy.
Identifying Landforms
Images