

Landform Greeting

Social Studies Content

Landforms

NCSS Standards Theme

People, Places, and
Environments

C3 Framework

D2.Geo.2.3–5 Use maps, satellite images, photographs, and other representations to explain relationships between the locations of places and regions and their environmental characteristics.

Common Core Standards

SL.4.1 Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 4 topics and texts, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

Materials Needed

Optional: Chart showing
landform symbols

Vocabulary

Gesture
Island
Landform
Mountain
Plain
Plateau
Valley

How to do it:

- 1 Introduce the greeting: "Today, you'll greet classmates with gestures that make the shapes of landforms we've been studying."

Model landform gestures for mountain, plateau, valley, island, and plain, using hands and arms (some possible shapes are shown below). Have the whole class make each shape as you model it. You may also want to display a chart showing the shapes.



Plateau



Island



Valley

- 2 Have students count off by fives around the circle. Assign each number a landform: "Ones are mountains, two are plateaus," and so forth.
- 3 Explain how the greeting will work: "When I call out the names of two landforms, those students will come to the middle of the circle, make the shape of their landform, and greet each other with "Hello" and their landform names—for example, 'Hello, mountain!' and 'Hello, plain!' Then I'll say 'Landforms return,' and I'll call out two more landforms."
- 4 Call out different pairs of landforms until everyone has been greeted.

VARIATION

- Have students choose the landforms and create the hand motions.

EXTENDING THE SOCIAL STUDIES LEARNING BEYOND MORNING MEETING

- Assign small groups of students one landform to research. They might create a narrated slideshow or booklet of images and text about the landform and places in the world where it can be found.