Name: _____ Date: _____

Five Climates on One Tanzanian Mountain

Circle group

Mount Kilimanjaro is in the east African country of Tanzania. It is the tallest mountain in Africa. It stands alone on a wide plain. It is a volcano that is not erupting now. Climbing it feels like a trip across the whole world.

The trip starts in warm farmland. Farmers grow coffee and bananas there. Higher up is a rain forest. The air is wet, and moss hangs from the trees. Monkeys and birds live there.

Next is heath and moorland, with shrubs and odd, tall plants. The air is cooler, and clouds drift by. Above that is a dry, rocky desert. Little can grow, and the nights are cold. At the top are ice and bare stone. The air is thin and cold.

It gets colder as the land gets higher. That makes a ladder of climates.

Questions

1. In which country is Mount Kilimanjaro?

_____

_____

2. What kind of mountain is Kilimanjaro?

_____

_____

3. What crops grow in the warm zone at the bottom?

_____

_____

4. Which zone comes after the rain forest?

_____

_____

5. Why does the climate change as you climb?

_____

_____

6. Why is the climb like a trip across the world?

_____

_____

Words to know

volcano: a mountain with an opening where melted rock can burst out
plain: a large flat stretch of land
moorland: open land covered with low shrubs and grass
thin: having less of something than usual, as air high up has less oxygen

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Five Climates on One Tanzanian Mountain

Triangle group

Mount Kilimanjaro rises in the east African country of Tanzania. It is the tallest mountain in Africa, and it stands alone on a wide plain instead of in a long chain of peaks. It is a volcano that is no longer erupting. What makes it special is that climbing it feels like traveling across the whole world.

The trip begins at the bottom in warm farmland. Farmers there grow crops such as coffee and bananas. Higher up is a rain forest, where the air is wet and the trees are draped in moss. Monkeys and many birds live among the branches.

Next comes a zone of heath and moorland, with shrubs and tall, odd-looking plants. The air is cooler and the clouds often drift past. Above that is a dry, rocky desert where very little can grow and the nights are cold. Finally, at the top, there is a zone of ice and bare stone, where the air is thin and cold.

Temperature drops as the land gets higher. That simple fact creates a ladder of climates, one stacked above another. Scientists study such mountains to learn how plants and animals fit into each kind of place.

Questions

1. In which country is Mount Kilimanjaro?

_____

_____

2. What kind of mountain is Kilimanjaro?

_____

_____

3. What crops grow in the warm zone at the bottom?

_____

_____

4. Which zone comes right after the rain forest?

_____

_____

5. Why does the climate change as you climb higher?

_____

_____

6. What does the passage mean by saying the climb feels like traveling across the whole world?

_____

_____

Words to know

volcano: a mountain with an opening where melted rock can burst out
plain: a large flat stretch of land
moorland: open land covered with low shrubs and grass
zone: an area that has a certain feature
thin: having less of something than usual, as air high up has less oxygen

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Five Climates on One Tanzanian Mountain

Square group

Mount Kilimanjaro rises in the east African country of Tanzania. It is the tallest mountain on the continent, and it stands alone on a wide plain rather than within a long chain of peaks. It is a volcano that is no longer erupting. What makes it truly remarkable is that climbing it feels like traveling across the entire world.

The journey begins at the bottom in warm, fertile farmland, where farmers grow crops such as coffee and bananas. Higher up lies a rain forest, where the air is damp and the trees are draped in moss. Monkeys and many species of birds make their homes among the branches.

Next comes a zone of heath and moorland, filled with shrubs and tall, strange-looking plants. The air is noticeably cooler, and clouds often drift past. Above that stretches a dry, rocky desert where very little can grow and the nights are bitterly cold. Finally, at the summit, there is a zone of ice and bare stone, where the air is thin and cold.

Temperature drops as the land rises. That simple fact creates a ladder of climates, each stacked above the one before. Scientists study such mountains to learn how plants and animals adapt to each kind of place.

Questions

1. In which country does Mount Kilimanjaro rise?

_____

_____

2. What kind of mountain is Kilimanjaro?

_____

_____

3. What crops do farmers grow in the warm zone at the bottom?

_____

_____

4. Which zone comes immediately after the rain forest?

_____

_____

5. Why does the climate change as you climb higher?

_____

_____

6. What does the passage mean by comparing the climb to traveling across the world?

_____

_____

Words to know

volcano: a mountain with an opening where melted rock can burst out
plain: a large flat stretch of land
moorland: open land covered with low shrubs and grass
zone: an area that has a certain feature
thin: having less of something than usual, as air high up has less oxygen

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

For the teacher: Five Climates on One Tanzanian Mountain

Each student sheet carries a shape, not a level. The same topic and facts, written three ways.

Circle: Five Climates on One Tanzanian Mountain

Easier · 138 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.6

1. Tanzania.
2. A volcano that is not erupting now.
3. Coffee and bananas.
4. Heath and moorland.
5. It gets colder as the land gets higher.
6. You pass through many kinds of places, from farms to ice.

Triangle: Five Climates on One Tanzanian Mountain

This passage · 198 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 5.5

1. Tanzania.
2. A volcano that is no longer erupting.
3. Coffee and bananas.
4. Heath and moorland.
5. The temperature drops as the land gets higher.
6. You pass through many different kinds of places, from warm farms to ice, in one trip.

Square: Five Climates on One Tanzanian Mountain

Harder · 208 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 6.7

1. Tanzania.
2. A volcano that is no longer erupting.
3. Coffee and bananas.
4. Heath and moorland.
5. The temperature drops as the land rises.
6. You pass through many different kinds of places, from warm farms to ice, in one journey.