



NOTES AND IDEAS FOR KS2 TEACHERS



TOPIC 2: YELLOWSTONE'S HISTORY



S TEACHER RESOURCES
Prepared by SHAPES for Schools

TOPIC 1: AN INCREDIBLE PLACE



- What is your overall impression of Yellowstone National Park from the front cover?
- What do you notice about the landscape? How do you think this may change in winter?
- Which animals and plants can you spot? Who and what else do you think call Yellowstone their home?

- According to page 10, where is Yellowstone National Park? How large is it?
- What else do you learn about Yellowstone from the map on page 10?
- According to page 11, what does the park sit on top of? What lies under the ground?
- List four different ways to explore the huge wilderness of Yellowstone on page 11.
- Where does Yellowstone's water supply start out? Which river systems does it eventually join up with?



ACTIVITY:

Write a postcard home describing your first day visiting Yellowstone National Park. What did you see? What makes Yellowstone such an incredible place? What do you hope to see tomorrow? Design the other side of your postcard using the illustrations and information on the front cover and pages 10-11 for inspiration.

- According to page 16, how many Native American tribes are known to have visited Yellowstone?
- List an interesting fact you learn about each tribe on pages 16-17.
- According to page 18, when did European settlers first reach Yellowstone?



ACTIVITY:

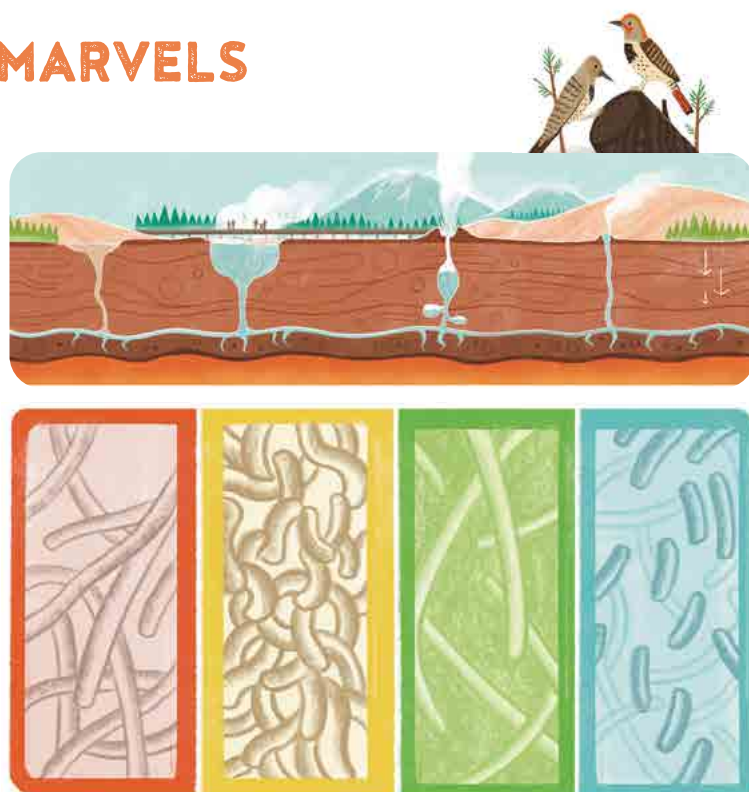
Create your own Historical Timeline to document the history of Yellowstone - the world's first national park. Your chronological timeline should include dates, key facts, and information about the people connected to Yellowstone's rich past. For a challenge, use pages 12-15 and 20-23 to add extra information to your timeline!

- Who was the first European to travel through Yellowstone? Why do you think few people believed his 'wild tales'?
- What was Walter DeLacy and his men searching for? What did they bring back instead?
- Who and what helped Congress understand that Yellowstone's wonders should be protected?
- Which other expeditions took place in the 1800s? What did they achieve?



TOPIC 3: HYDROTHERMAL MARVELS

- Where will you find the largest collection of hydrothermal features in the world?
- How many does Yellowstone have and how are they created?
- According to page 30, which is the largest hot spring in Yellowstone and the whole of the United States?
- What is so special about this spring? Where does it get its name from?
- Where does the water in the Grand Prismatic Spring come from? What lives in the water?



- According to page 31, why is the water in the centre of the spring a clear blue?
- What are thermophiles? How do they appear to change the colour of the water?
- Why are scientists studying Yellowstone's hydrothermal features?

ACTIVITY:

Learn more about Yellowstone's hydrothermal features by matching the definitions with the correct terms. Use pages 28 - 29 for help.

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| 1. FUMUARoles | 4. MUDPOTS |
| 2. HOT SPRINGS | 5. GRAND PRISMATIC |
| 3. GEYERS | |

Find these 5 key terms hidden in the word search - see Activity 3.

- These spew spectacular fountains of steam and water into the air.
- Also known as steam vents, these are the hottest hydrothermal features in the park, with temperatures as high as 280°F.
- These create bubbling, burping, puddles that sometimes smell of rotten eggs (Yuk!)
- The largest hot spring in Yellowstone and the whole of the United States.
- These occur where the underground rock channels allow the heated water to move up to the surface easily.

TOPIC 4: YELLOWSTONE'S WILDLIFE

- What is an ecosystem? For how long has the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem remained largely unchanged?
- What are the most common large mammals in the ecosystem? What do you know about these animals?
- According to page 39, what are ungulates? How many can you name?
- What do you learn about 'pawed predators' and bears on page 39? List your ideas.



ACTIVITY:

Research more about Yellowstone's wildlife using pages 42-65 to help you.

Then, design a travel brochure entitled VISIT YELLOWSTONE to persuade tourists to visit this incredible place!

Your brochure should include:

- Sketches and key facts about amazing animals and creatures you may see in the wild.
- Other interesting information about this vast ecosystem.
- Top tips - e.g. what to pack; how to be safe around the park; how visitors can help protect Yellowstone's wildlife.



- According to page 56, how many species of bird have been spotted in Yellowstone?
- Why are these birds being carefully counted and studied? What other threats might Yellowstone's wildlife face?
- What do hawks, falcons, and eagles hunt? How do they spot their prey?
- What makes warblers, sparrows, and flycatchers easy to find?



TOPIC 2 ACTIVITY



DATE

KEY FACTS

PEOPLE



DATE

KEY FACTS

PEOPLE



DATE

KEY FACTS

PEOPLE



DATE

KEY FACTS

PEOPLE

DATE

KEY FACTS

PEOPLE



TOPIC 3 ACTIVITY



F	N	A	F	A	P	A	S	T	O	P	D	U	M	M
R	M	L	Q	V	G	E	Y	E	R	S	T	K	Z	X
H	C	V	R	F	O	E	E	R	J	P	B	B	G	Z
I	G	R	A	N	D	P	R	I	S	M	A	T	I	C
I	G	P	O	P	E	I	Q	V	X	D	M	U	H	G
R	F	A	L	F	I	R	U	E	F	I	D	K	Q	G
I	N	Q	Z	E	S	S	T	C	G	I	A	E	D	V
A	Y	S	E	L	O	R	A	U	M	U	F	M	U	V
T	F	G	H	O	T	S	P	R	I	N	G	S	P	C
P	C	J	V	D	O	G	W	L	X	Y	S	P	L	Y

Answers to Topic 3, activity B: 1B; 2E; 3A; 4C; 5D