

## PHYSICAL FEATURES EXPLANATIONS

### Performance Standard (16EUS/16EW).B

Complete a comparison chart comparing and contrasting two stories that explain natural features or occurrences accordingly:

- *Knowledge*: identify physical environments from two legends that are located within the United States and outside the United States;
- *Reasoning*: compare and contrast the two legends;
- *Communication*: produce a comparison chart for the two legends; express all ideas in a way that provides evidence of knowledge and reasoning processes.

### Procedures

1. ***In order to understand Illinois, United States and world environmental history (16E)***, students should experience sufficient learning opportunities to develop the following:
  - Tell about a myth, legend, or story that people told long ago to describe the physical environment of a place or region in Illinois or other states; and
  - Tell about a myth, legend, or story that people told long ago to describe a region or place's physical environment (e.g., stories of floods, castles on hillsides).
2. Have students review and discuss the assessment task and how the rubric will be used to evaluate
3. Read Llama and the Great Flood to the students. Have students discuss/respond to the story.
4. Display a map of the world and have students locate and mark the country of Peru where this story takes place.
5. Read Paul Bunyan by Steven Kellogg to the students. Have students discuss/respond to the story.
6. On the same map, locate where this story takes place, mark it and discuss the difference between the two story locations.
7. Discuss the two stories, comparing and contrasting information and events from the stories.
8. Create a list on the board of information they should include in the comparison. (See step 9)
9. Have students compare and contrast the two stories on the provided worksheet to include the following criteria:
  - a. Title of both stories.
  - b. Setting for the story. (To include if in U.S. or outside of the U.S.)
  - c. What physical event occurred according to this story?
  - d. Tell who or what explains why this event or physical feature to occurred.
  - e. Tell at least one way these stories are alike.
  - f. Tell at least one way these stories are different.
10. Evaluate each student's work using the Social Science Rubric as follows and add the scores to determine the performance level:
  - *Knowledge*: the identification of physical environments are accurate and complete;
  - *Reasoning*: the comparison of the two legends is logical, complete and accurate;
  - *Communication*: the comparison chart is well-organized and well-detailed; the knowledge and reasoning were effectively communicated.

### Examples of Student Work follow

#### Time Requirements

- Two class periods to read and discuss books
- One class period to complete assessment task

### Resources

- Llama and the Great Flood By Ellen Alexander
- Paul Bunyan by Steven Kellogg
- Crayons or markers
- Copies of the "Physical Features Explanations" task sheet
- Social Science Rubric

Llama and the Great Flood

Paul Bunyon

What is the setting for the story?

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What physical event happened in the story?

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Who explains why this event happened?

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How are these stories alike?

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How are these stories different?

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What is the setting for the story?

In the mountains of Peru.

across the U.S.A.

What event happened to the environment in the story?

There was a great big flood that lasted five days.

There was a big blizzards that lasted several years.

Who explains why this event happened?

Ellen Alexander

Steven Kellogg

How are these stories alike?

They both have Events, people and Animals.

How are these stories different?

Paul Bunyon is a tall tale an Llama and the Great Flood is a folk tale.