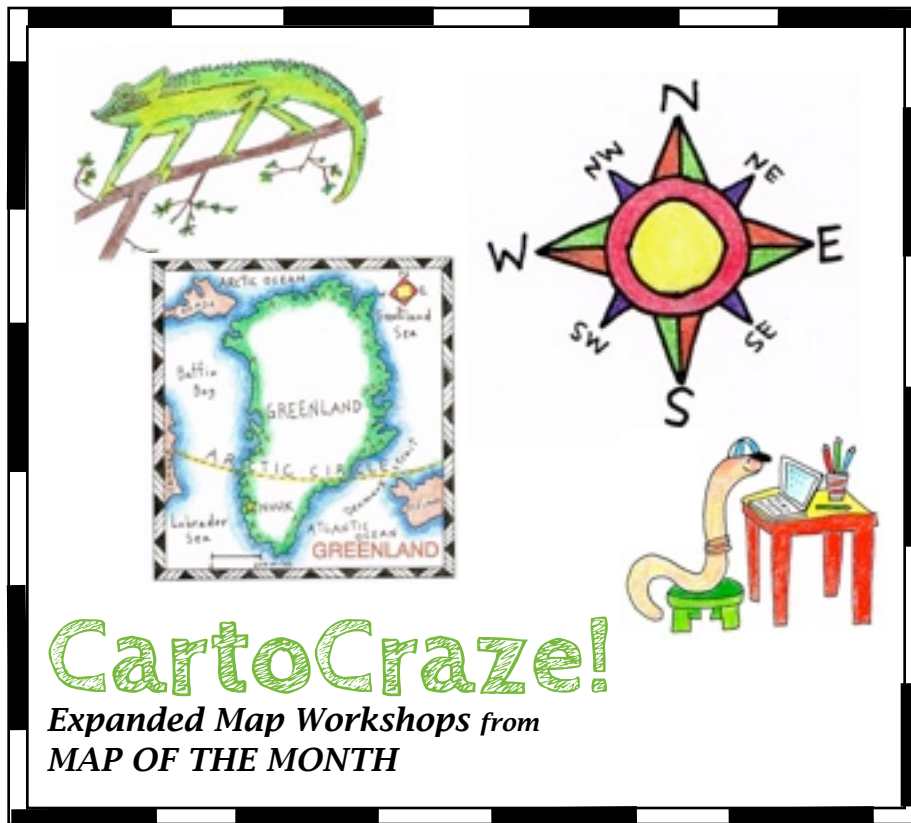


# THE ALPS



**CartoCraze!**

*Expanded Map Workshops from  
MAP OF THE MONTH*

**CartoCraze!**

**Expanded Map Workshops**

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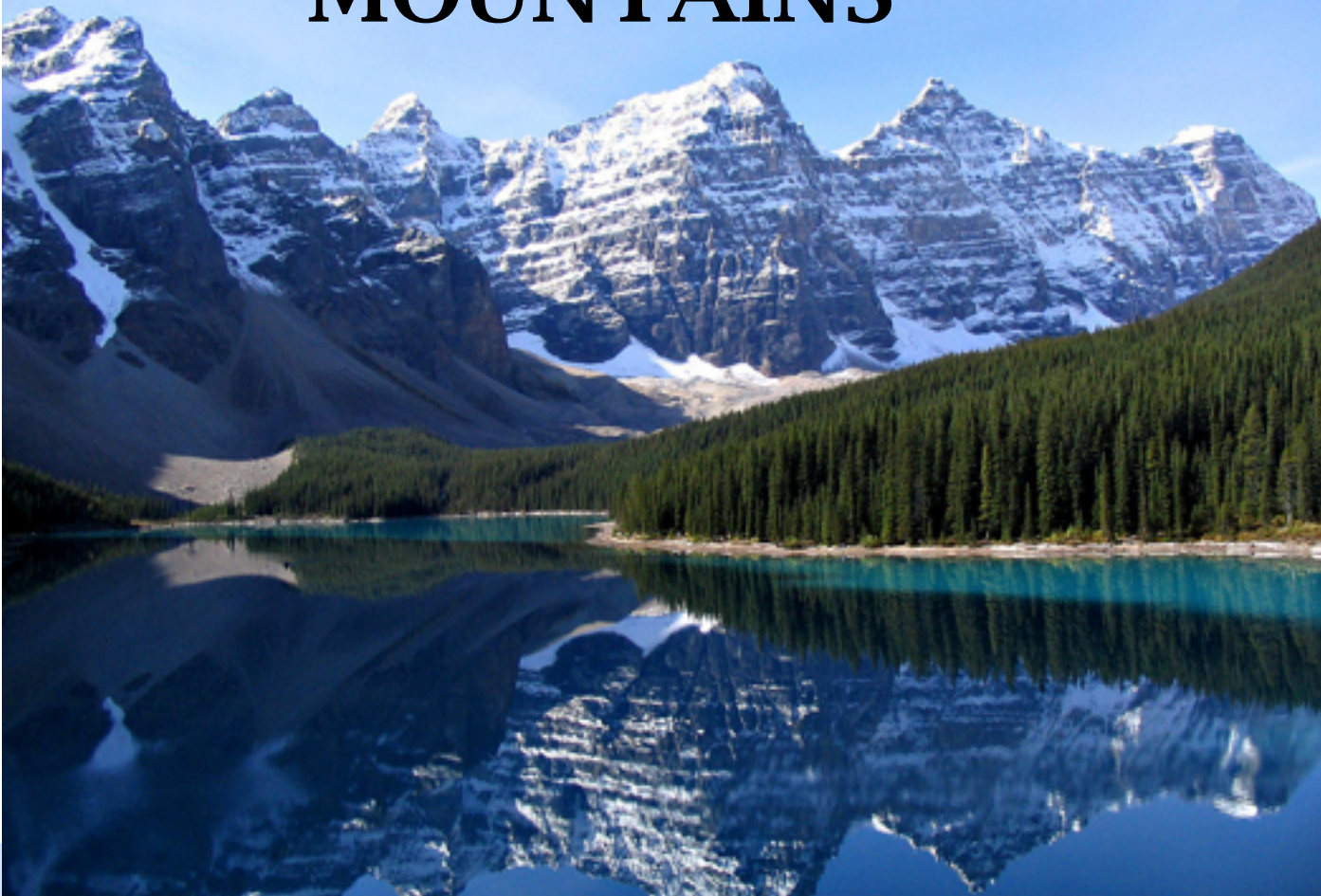
P. O. Box 2484

Providence, RI 02906

888 876 6277

[www.mapsfortheclassroom.com](http://www.mapsfortheclassroom.com)

# MOUNTAINS



This vista of the beautiful Valley of the Ten Peaks, in the Canadian Rockies, is a fine example of why mountains inspire our sense of wonder!

People throughout human history have been fascinated with mountains. Their majesty and size fills us with wonder! Mountains have inspired religion and mythology. They are the setting for stories, tall tales and literature. Men and women have set out on adventures and accomplish epic feats in mountainous terrain. For the average person, they provide places for sport activities and vacations!

A mountain is one of our planet's major landforms. A group of mountains forms what is called a range. Mountains are areas of earth that rise up sharply in peaks or mounded shapes, with different elevations.

Mountains can be small or large, and are formed in several ways. When the tectonic plates of the earth's surface move towards each other and crumble, they caused the earth to rise in peaks. When this movement of plates allow the hot magma beneath the earth's surface to rise up, volcanic peaks are formed.

The height of mountains are measured from sea level. Low altitude mountains can support vegetation year round and the highest peaks have only snow and cold. Mountains are home to a wide variety of plants and animals, and humans have adapted to living around and on mountains.

# MOUNTAIN TERMS AND THEIR DEFINITIONS



It is impossible to talk about **MOUNTAINS**, or learn about them, without knowing some terms that relate to **MOUNTAINS**. Here are just a few terms!

Can you come up with other terms related to mountains?

**RANGE** A range is a group of mountains that are geographically related. Sometimes a large mountain range is made up of many smaller ranges.

**SUMMIT** The highest point of a mountain.

**ELEVATION** The elevation of a place is often described as its height above sea level. A mountain's elevation is determined by its highest point, or summit.

**SEA LEVEL** This is a base measurement for determining the height of mountains. The seas and oceans of the world vary slightly in height due to weather and geography so Sea Level is an average called "Local Mean Sea Level."

**RIDGE** A chain of mountains whose upper section form a continuous line over a distance.

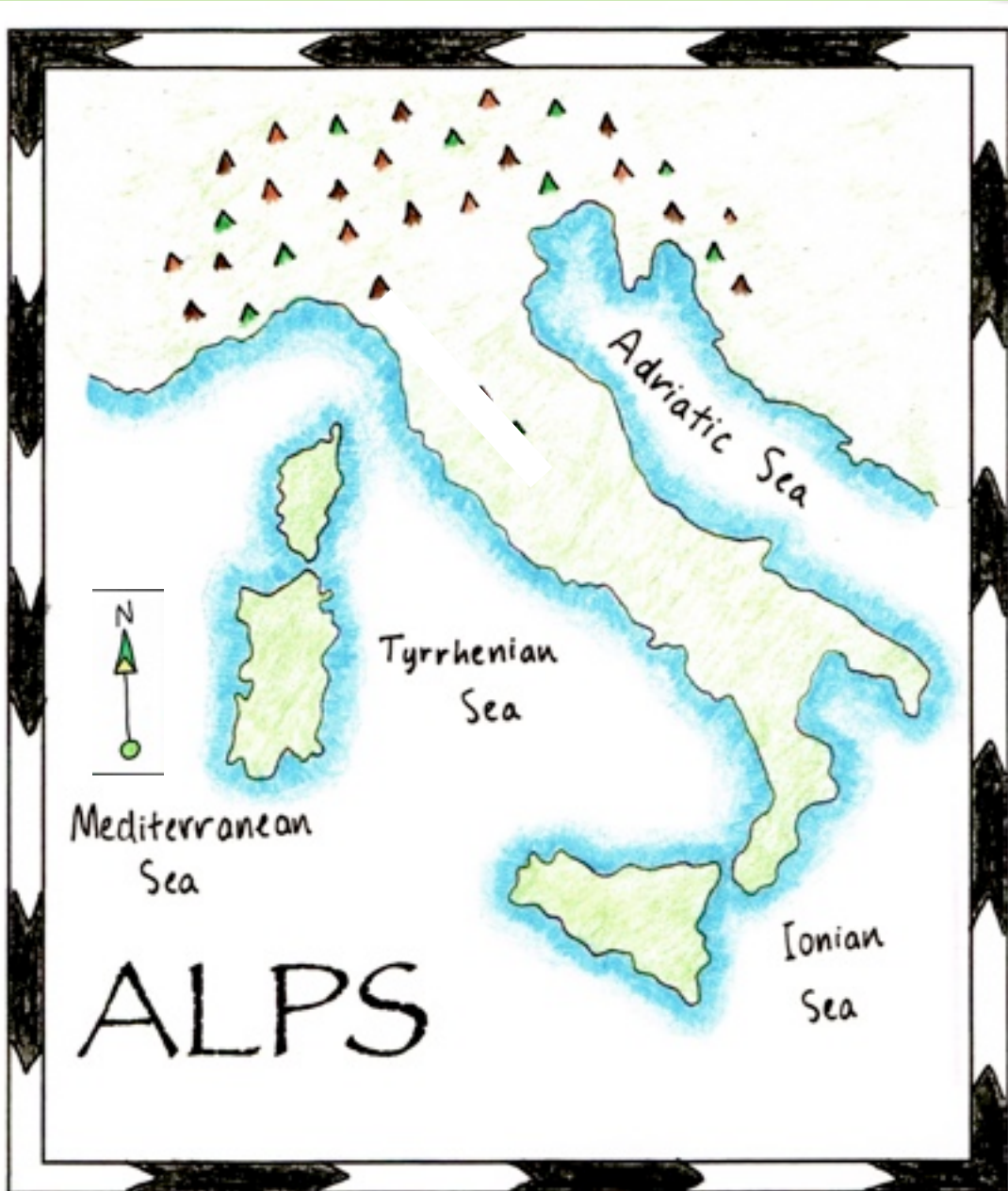


The following presentation is an introduction to  
**THE ALPS MOUNTAINS**  
with guidelines about making a map, as well as some information  
about its geography, people and animals.

# THE ALPS

The **ALPS** form a crescent shaped mountain range in the continent Europe, 750 miles east to west. Eight countries have peaks that are part of the Alps: Austria, Slovenia, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Germany, France, Italy, as well as tiny Monaco. The highest peak in the Alps is called Mont Blanc, and it is 15,780 feet high. Other tall mountains are Piz Bernina, Mount Rosa and Ortler: all ranging from 12,000 to 15,000 feet.

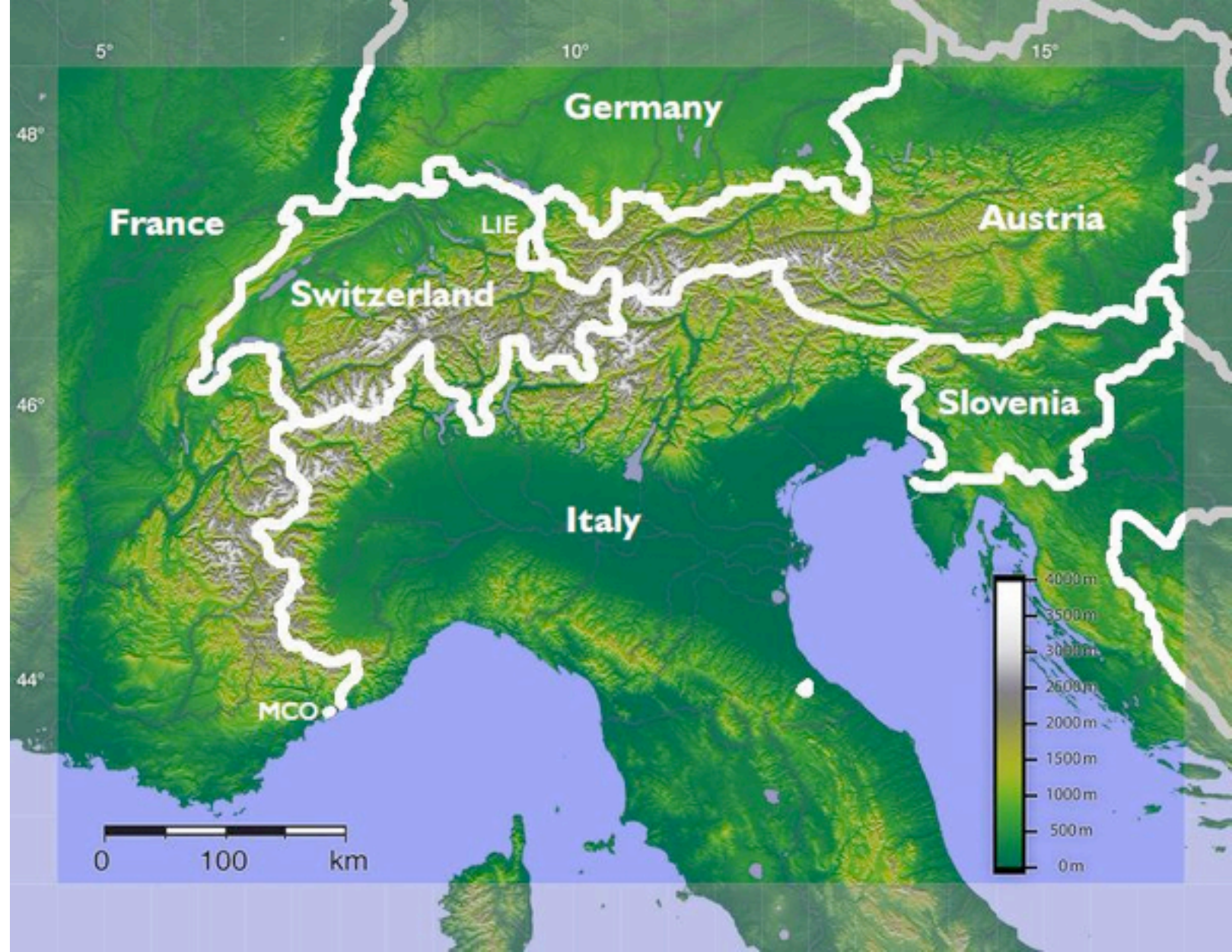
For centuries, people have traveled these high and craggy mountains by going through mountain passes. A pass is a depression or valley between large mountains, a lower altitude where movement is easier. In the distant past, people walked through these passes or rode animals. In ancient Roman times, the military general Hannibal crossed the Alps with elephants! Eventually roads were built in the passes so that people and goods could be transported more quickly. Today, modern tourists travel by train through the same passes used by people in ancient times.



Make a compass rose for your map by following the directions [HERE!](#)



I am Professor Earthworm!



Map: Hanno Sandvik, [Creative Commons](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/)

## ON THE MAP!

*This map shows how the Alps span the countries in the continent of EUROPE. There are two other map elements shown on this maps: a SCALE and a MAP KEY.*

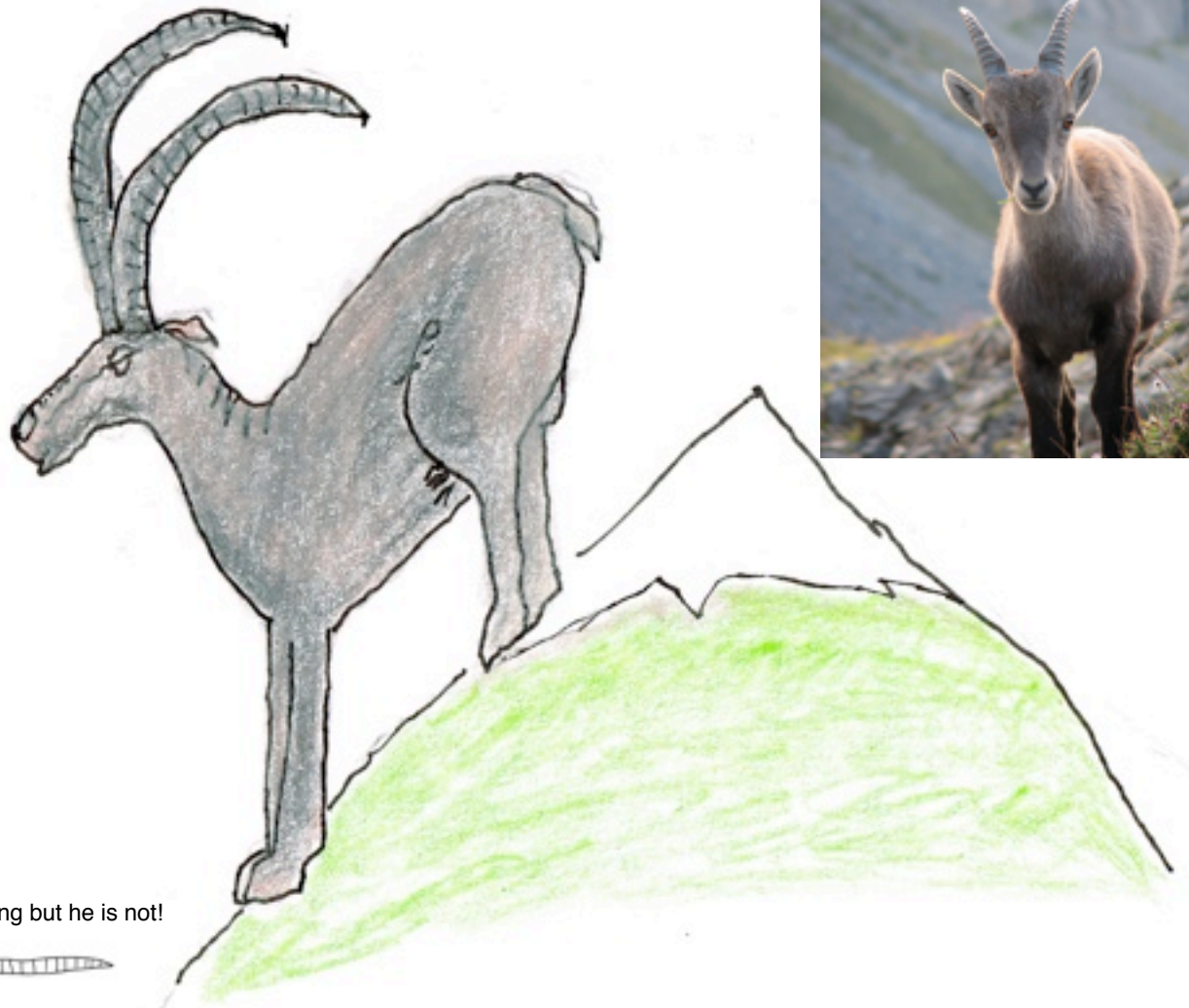
**The MAP SCALE, at lower LEFT, shows how many kilometers are represented by a certain width.**

1. The bar is divided by 4: how many kilometers would be represented by one of these sections, dark and light?
2. How many miles are 100 kilometers?



**The MAP KEY at the RIGHT, using gradation of colors that show the various altitudes on the map.**

1. The top altitude shown on the KEY is 4000 meters. How many miles is this?
2. What does 0 meters in this scale represent?



He looks like he is sliding but he is not!

## Alpine ibex

The Alpine Ibex, also known as the Steinbock, is found in the mountain range of the Alps in Eastern Europe. These wild goats are characterized by their long curving horns and their amazing ability to climb. In males, horns can grow to be 27 to 39 inches. The smaller horns of the females measure only 7 to 14 inches. The Ibex are able to scale rock faces that are almost vertical. This can be attributed to their multi-surfaced cloven hooves: hard around the edges, soft and smooth in the center. Found in mountainous areas with sparse vegetation, the ibex spends most of its days foraging for and eating plants.

By the beginning of the 19th century, the Alpine Ibex were almost extinct. They were hunted for their horns, which people believed they had magical and curative powers.

# ALPS

PRINT THIS PAGE:  
COLOR AND LABEL THE MAP,  
FILL IN LANDFORMS, COUNTRY  
NAMES AND BODIES OF WATER.

ADD A **COMPASS ROSE**  
TO YOUR MAP! DO THE  
ACTIVITIES AND COLOR THE  
ALPINE IBEX

## SPELLING WORDS

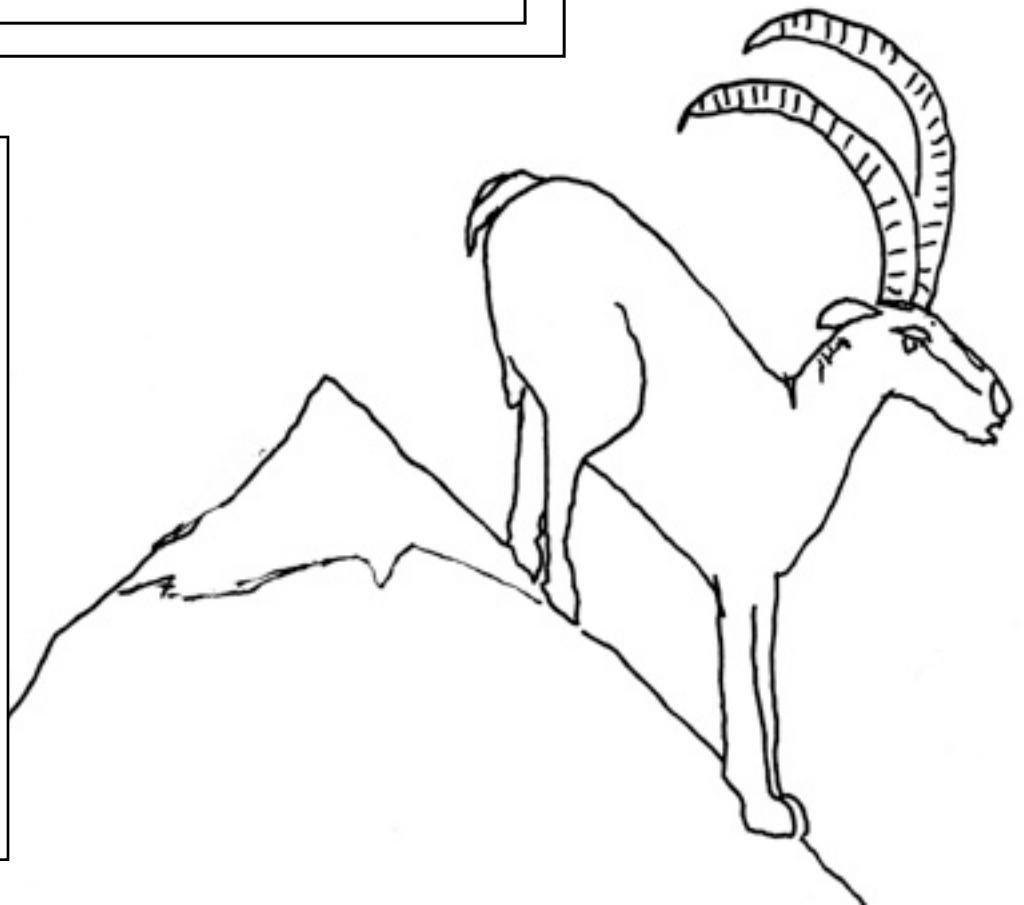
beard  
climbing  
meadow  
herd  
stocky  
hooves  
flora  
fauna  
altitude  
atmosphere

# ALPS

## VOCABULARY WORDS

Turn your map over and define  
these words!

terrain  
horns  
herbivore  
curved  
forage  
bovids  
vegetation  
mammal  
scale  
perimeter





IBEX

# SAFE PASSAGE!

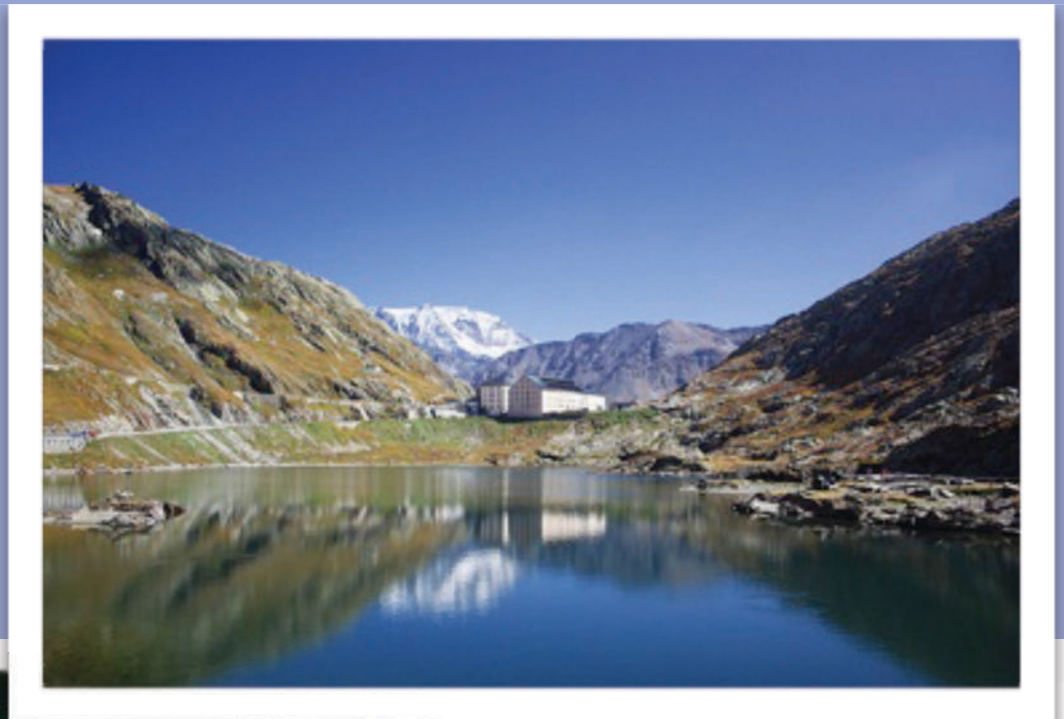
One of the most important passes in the Alps is called the Great St. Bernard Pass, named after Bernard of Menton who became a saint in the Catholic religion.

In the year 1029, he built a hospice in the pass to shelter religious pilgrims from France and Germany traveling to Rome. This was the lowest passage between the two highest peaks in the Alps, Mont Blanc and Monte Rosa.

People traveled through the dangerous mountain trails and passes before there were major roads in place. Today the road is not used very much since tunnels have been build for transportation to move through.

Since the 1600's a large strong breed of dog, named after St. Bernard, helped rescue people in the passes with snow and avalanches.

Today a hospice is still in place, a small monastery for religious retreats. The original old road is still in place and a more modern road passes nearby as well.



SAINT BERNARD DOG,  
hero of the snowy  
mountain passes  
of the Alps

# Compare and Contrast!



The village of Hallstatt in upper Austria is nestled in a tiny piece of land between the Alps and Lake Hallstatt. The sepia photo above is from the year 1899, and the color photo below is a current day image. **See how little things have changed here in over 100 years! Can you see how many of the original buildings (above) are still in place today (below)?**

Hallstatt is famous because it was the the location of the world's first known salt mine. People settled here since prehistoric time because of the discovery of salt, a very important commodity. There was very little land between the river and the mountains and all of it has been developed. The first road into this area was not built until 1890 and until then, you could only reach Hallstatt by boat or trails through the mountains.



# MAJESTIC ALPINE VISTAS!

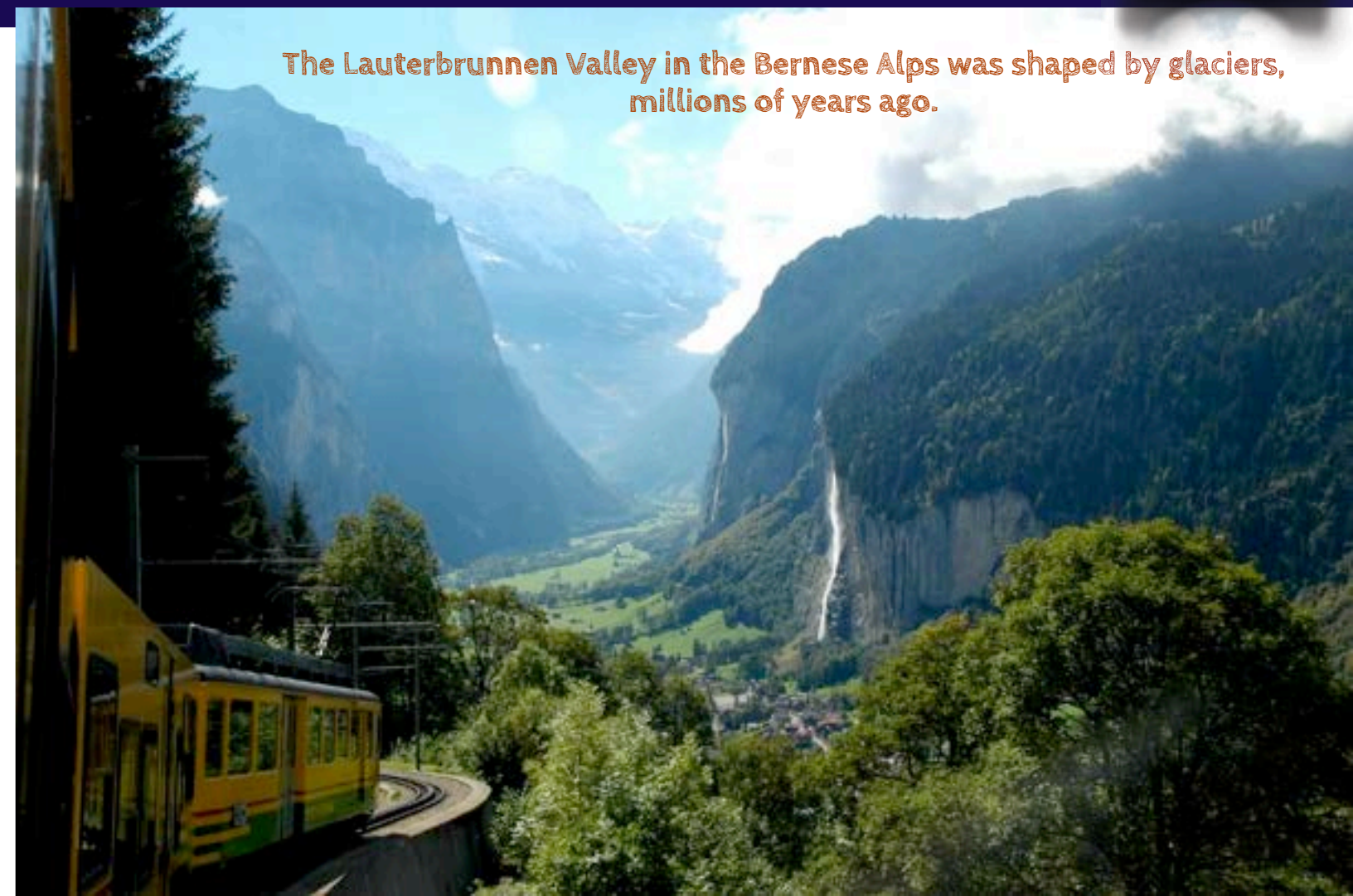


The Matterhorn (meaning Mountain) has a pyramid shape. It is located on the border of Switzerland and Italy. It is 4478 meters high, one of the highest peaks in the Alps as well as in all of Europe.

Choose another large peak in the ALPS and choose a city or town that is near it. Write a small essay about this place, telling what the place looks like, who lives there, what homes and schools are like, what food is popular, and what transportation is used.



The Lauterbrunnen Valley in the Bernese Alps was shaped by glaciers, millions of years ago.





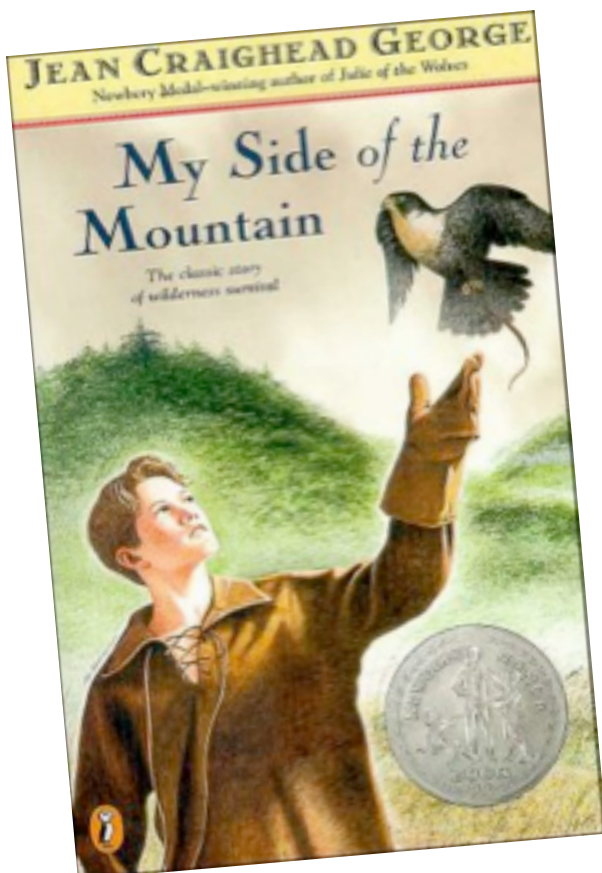
# MOUNTAIN READING LIST!



## HEIDI

by Joanna Spyri

At the age of five, little orphan Heidi is sent to live with her grandfather in the Alps. Everyone in the village is afraid of him, but Heidi is fascinated by his long beard and bushy grey eyebrows. She loves her life in the mountains, playing in the sunshine and growing up amongst the goats and birds. But one terrible day, Heidi is collected by her aunt and is made to live with a new family in town. Heidi can't bear to be away from her grandfather; can she find a way back up the mountain, where she

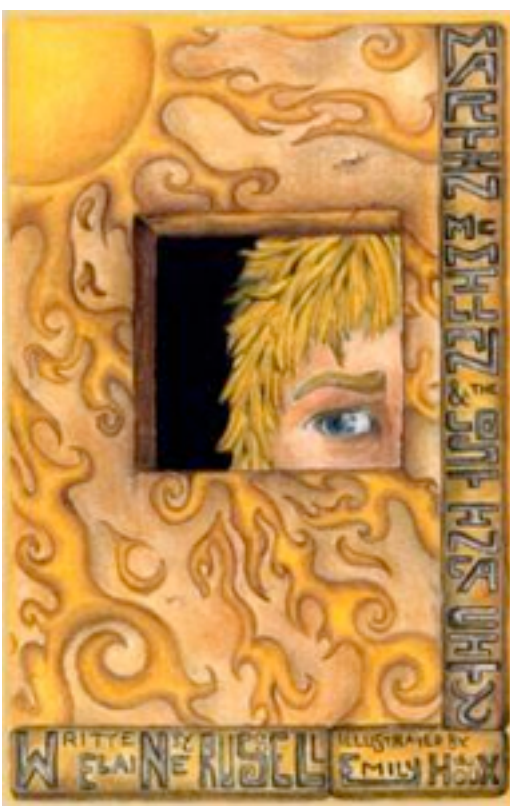


## MY SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN

by Jean Craighead George

Sam Gribble is unhappy living in New York City with his family, so he runs away to the Catskill Mountains to live in the wood, by himself. With only a penknife, a ball of cord, forty dollars, and some flint and steel, he intends to survive on his own.

Sam learns about courage, danger, and independence during his year in the wilderness, a year that changes his life forever.



## Martin McMillan and the Lost Inca City

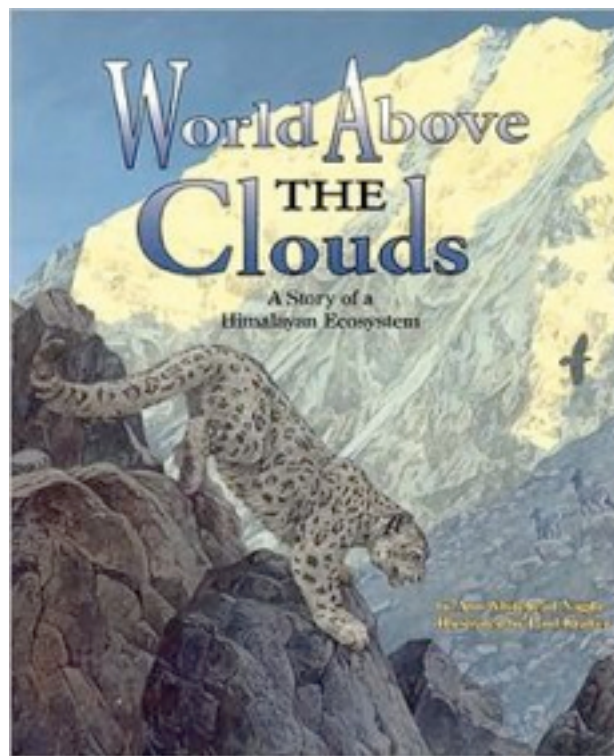
by Elaine Russell

Martin goes to Peru on an archaeological dig and brings his skateboard. He unexpectedly falls into an adventure with his new friend Isabel. They gain insights into the modern adult world, the Incan world, and their own world, while becoming immersed in a culture where meetings and clashes between richly diverse civilizations lead to a web of secret activity.

## World Above the Clouds: A Story of a Himalayan Ecosystem

by Ann Whitehead Nagda

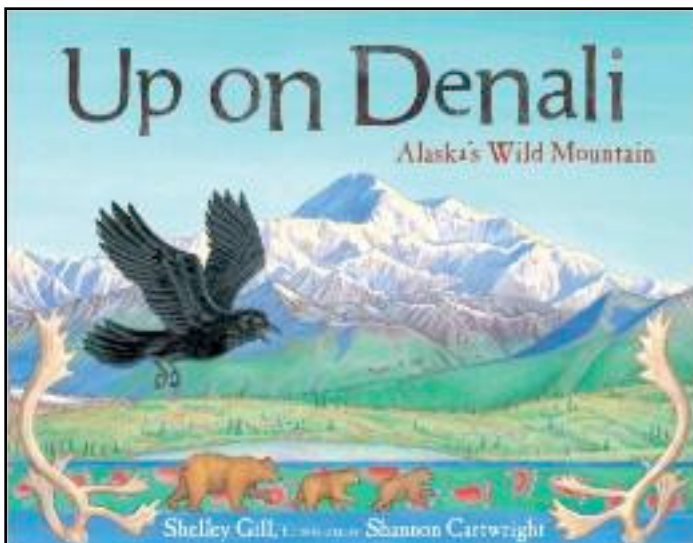
High in the snow-covered Himalayan peaks of northern India, a snow leopard has left the care of her mother and now must hunt and fend for herself. In the first few days alone she competes for her meals with a red fox, a bearded vulture, and even nearby villagers.



## UP ON DENALI

by Shelley Gill and Shannon Cartwright

From its origins as a trick played by Raven (the scientific version involving plate tectonics is also included) to the flora and fauna and human explorations, this colorful children's book reveals every facet of Alaska's great Denali Mountain. This book is full of fun and fascinating information.



# Map of the Month

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### MAP ACTIVITIES

1. Shade along the coastlines of the oceans and seas with a blue pencil.
2. Locate and label the countries, capitals and major cities.
3. Draw in some additional rivers.
4. Color the EUROPE title.

Welcome to Europe! Europe is the sixth largest continent, only Australia is smaller. Even though Europe is smaller in size than most continents, it has the second largest number of people of any continent.

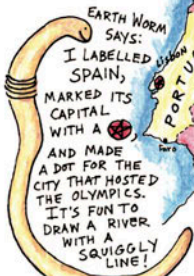
The Arctic lies to the north and the Mediterranean Sea to the south. The Atlantic borders Europe on the west and the Ural mountains separate Europe from the continent of Asia in the east.

Climate varies in Europe. To the north, the winters are long and cold; the summers are very short. Along the Mediterranean in the south, winters are wet and mild, with long, hot summers.

There are more than 30 countries in Europe. Because of the geography, many of these countries have access to oceans, seas and waterways. Throughout history this has made trade and movement fairly easy, among European countries as well as with Africa and the Middle East.

Many languages are spoken in Europe and each country has a distinct culture. Despite these differences, countries in western Europe have joined together to form a membership called the European Community, or Common Market. These countries feel that their economic resources will be stronger together than if they were separate.

### ATLANTIC OCEAN



# EUROPE



### EARTH WORM SAYS:

THERE ARE MANY MOUNTAIN RANGES IN EUROPE. DRAW THE ALPS, THE APPENINES, THE CARPATHIANS, THE URAL MOUNTAINS AND THE KJOLEN MOUNTAINS.

DRAW MOUNTAINS LIKE THIS: add snow!

Russia is the largest country in Europe. It occupies more than half of the land.

Russia spans two continents. The western portion is in Europe. The rest is east of the Ural mountains in Asia.

In 1992, Russia became an independent state. Formerly it was one of the 15 republics that made up the USSR, or the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

The capital city of Russia is Moscow.

Cartographers are always changing maps to keep them up to date.

There can be physical changes to the earth that must be recorded. When erosion and storms change fragile coastlines, maps have to be re-drawn.

Sometimes maps have to be changed to show man-made alterations. If a river is diverted or a swamp is filled in, the map has to change also.

Often it is political change that alters the face of a map. Recently, the changes in Europe have kept mapmakers very busy. East Germany and West Germany reunited. Russia and other former Soviet republics became independent countries.

More changes are yet to come, many in eastern Europe. When you are labeling this map, be sure you are using current sources. Check maps and articles in newspapers and magazines to see if boundary lines or names of places have been altered or changed.

