

Everglades National Park

Mountains and Valleys Video Series

Did you know that the Everglades has mountains and valleys? They are not your typical mountains and valleys that you think of. Everglades National Park is home to diverse and dynamic habitats. Small changes in elevation influence the difference between dry and wet habitats. Follow along as Everglades National Park Rangers explore the Everglades “mountains” and “valleys” from an in-depth perspective.

We will be sharing short videos under 10 minutes, each focusing on different dry habitats of the Everglades. These videos are a great addition to lessons from our Everglades Literacy Teacher Toolkit. See the links and lesson plans below:

Dry Habitats:

1. **Tropical Hardwood Hammock:** <https://tinyurl.com/ydz57lbl>



- Everglades Literacy Connection: Grade 3 Lesson 1- Classifying Everglades Animals and their Habitats
<https://www.evergladesliteracy.org/third-grade>
 - Students will learn that animals can be classified into six major animal groups and become familiar with Everglades animals in these groups. Students will also learn about the five different habitats of the Everglades where these animals live.

2. Pine Rockland: <https://tinyurl.com/y9ym27xn>



- Everglades Literacy Connection: Grade 4 Lesson 2- Wanted Alive!
<https://www.evergladesliteracy.org/fourth-grade>
 - Students will read a book titled Everglades by Jean Craighead George. They will research a threatened or endangered animal species and create a poster of their findings.
- **Wrap up the series with the Conclusion video:** <https://tinyurl.com/ybqcb5fg>
 - We've talked about each habitat individually but, they are all part of an interdependent Everglades ecosystem. The boundaries may seem subtle, but it's all about small changes in elevation that create the "mountains and valleys" in the Everglades ecosystem. The Everglades relies on wet season to dry season, limestone, fire, water levels, freshwater to brackish water to salt water, and all the plants, animals, and people that call this place home.