

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 wet 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:

Begin with the Introduction video: <https://tinyurl.com/yd2e7yvs>

Wet Habitats:

1. **Sawgrass Prairies:** <https://tinyurl.com/y926a65q>



- Everglades Literacy Connection: Grade 2 Lesson 2- Everglades Seasons
<https://www.evergladesliteracy.org/second-grade>
 - Students will act out an ecodrama in an alligator hole during the dry season. Each student will play the role of an animal that depends on the alligator hole. Students will identify the American alligator as a keystone species that enables other species to survive.

2. Cypress Domes: <https://tinyurl.com/yc8kj9ry>



- Everglades Literacy Connection: Grade 9-12 Amazing Adaptations
Lesson 3- Crossing Lines
<https://www.evergladesliteracy.org/9th-12th-amazing-adaptations>
 - Students will explain the concepts of “ecotone” and “edge effect”, and use a diagram to describe how this relates to biological diversity.

3. Sloughs: <https://tinyurl.com/y4mgelvs>



- Everglades Literacy Connection: Grade 2 Lesson 3- Wet Season - Dry Season: Fish Relay
<https://www.evergladesliteracy.org/second-grade>
 - Students will be learning about water levels and how they affect the amount of food available for wading birds, such as the Wood Stork. Students will run a relay race imitating parent Wood Storks feeding their babies; one team during the wet season, the second team during the dry season.

4. Mangroves: <https://tinyurl.com/y7esqbax>



- Everglades Literacy Connection: Grades 9-12 Amazing Adaptations
Lesson 3- Living on the Edge
<https://www.evergladesliteracy.org/9th-12th-amazing-adaptations>
 - Students learn about the unique adaptations mangroves have that allow them to live in coastal communities. Students construct models to demonstrate how mangroves help protect shorelines and contribute to the growth of the peninsula.

5. Florida Bay: <https://tinyurl.com/yaex9spa>



- Everglades Literacy Connection: Grades 9-12 Our Watershed Lesson 1-
The Heart of a Watershed
<https://www.evergladesliteracy.org/9th-12th-our-watershed>
 - In small groups, students build a landscape model to illustrate the uniqueness of the Kissimmee-Lake Okeechobee-Everglades (K-O-E) watershed, and then modify the model to demonstrate how alterations have affected the K-O-E watershed.