

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Old as the Hills

by Olivia Mendoza

**H**ave you ever heard the saying “as old as the hills”? It means very old. But how old are the hills? Some are older than others.

Almost everyone knows about Mt. Everest. It's the tallest

North America has the Rocky Mountains to the west. The Rockies reach 14,440 feet (4,400 meters). They started forming about 70 million years ago—give or take 10 million years!

In eastern North America,

A cartoon superhero with brown hair, wearing a blue suit and a red cape, is flying through a blue sky with white clouds. The superhero's chest has a shield-shaped logo with the letters 'MJS' in white on a blue background.

**Preview**  
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weathered down. Its highest peak is Mount Mitchell in North Carolina, at 6,684 feet (2,037 meters). It's more than 2,000 miles (3,300 kilometers) long. You might even know some sections by their own names, like the Adirondacks or the Smoky Mountains. They're part of the same range. What is that range? The Appalachians!



valleys made travel difficult. This helped decide some state



# Preview

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through far northeastern states like Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont. They wind through New York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. They keep going south, through Virginia, West Virginia, and Kentucky. Finally, they end in Tennessee, Georgia, and Alabama. They touch many provinces and states in between.

Many years ago, the Appalachians' mountains and

self. Most of these communities together are called Appalachia. Appalachia even includes some places without Appalachians in them, like parts of Mississippi.

If you get a chance, visit the Appalachian Mountains. Maybe hike the famous Appalachian Trail! And if someone says something is as old as the hills, surprise them with just how old those hills are.

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- Based on information in the text, which state also has Appalachians?
  - California
  - South Carolina
  - Alaska
  - Hawaii
- Fill in the table using data from the article.

mountain range	continent	age	max height
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- The Himalayas get about 1 inch taller per year. How does this compare to the Appalachians?
  - It's the opposite.
  - It's the same.
  - It's similar but slower.
  - It's similar but faster.
- Explain the difference between the Appalachians and Appalachia.

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- The Appalachians are experiencing a process called...
  - watering
  - shortening
  - weathering
  - isolating



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Old as the Hills



The following terms are vocabulary words from the article. Match the vocabulary word with its correct definition by writing the corresponding letter on the line.

1. \_\_\_\_ range

a. broken down over time

2. \_\_\_\_ independent

b. highest point of something



6. \_\_\_\_ isolated

f. sense of self

7. \_\_\_\_ the Rockies

g. not needing outside help

8. \_\_\_\_ weathered

h. groups of people living or working together

9. \_\_\_\_ wind

i. mountains in western North America

10. \_\_\_\_ peak

j. to curve or snake between

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Old as the Hills



In the article, "Old as the Hills," you read about the Appalachians, Rockies, and Himalayas.

The Andes (pictured), the Alps, the Atlas Mountains, and the Urals are other mountain ranges. Use the internet to research one of them. Describe how it relates to the ranges in the article in terms of location, age, highest peak, length, and so on. On the back of this page, write the address(es) for the website(s) you used for your research.



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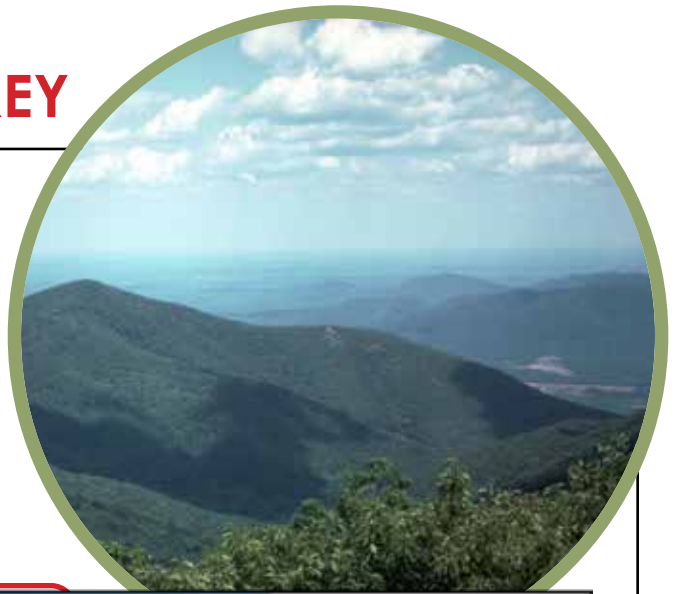
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1. Based on information in the text, which state also has Appalachians?

5. The Appalachians are experiencing a process called...
  - a. watering
  - b. shortening
  - c. weathering**
  - d. isolating

## ANSWER KEY

# Old as the Hills



The following terms are vocabulary words from the article. Match the vocabulary word with its correct definition by writing the corresponding letter on the line.

1.   c   range

a. broken down over time



10.   b   peak

j. to curve or snake between