

Grades: 6-8

Himalaya: Kingdoms of the Sky

Witness the extraordinary wildlife and remarkable people of Earth's highest mountain range, where Tibetan monks perform ancient rituals, snow leopards prowl the mountainsides and bizarre snub-nosed monkeys survive in frozen forests.

After watching this episode, choose from the following questions and/or tasks to extend your learning

Question Box 1

- Provide at least two quotes of evidence that support the main claims.
- What is the central idea of the text? Is there a quote from "Himalaya: Kingdoms of the Sky" that represents the author's central idea?
- Choose 2-3 unfamiliar words for the program and define them.
- What clues can you point to in the program to explain the author's purpose? What is your analysis of the program? What evidence did you identify to support your analysis of the TV show?
- What is earth's highest mountain range and where is it located?
- Describe the life of Tibetan monks residing in the Himalayas.
- List four details you learned about the snow leopard from this episode.
- How do snub-nosed monkeys survive in frozen forests on the eastern slopes of the Himalaya during the winter?
- How long do the Himalayan marmots hibernate?
- What animals are predators of these marmots?
- Where does a Himalayan Jumping spider live? And what are its superpowers that allow it to live in the frigid environment?
- Describe the ancient Tibetan ceremony of the creation of the sand Mandal.
- Describe the height and the environmental circumstances of the "death zone".
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Question Box 2

- What were some of the most interesting discoveries you made while watching this program?
- What were some of my most powerful learning moments in the program and what made them so?
- How much did you know about the subject before we started? Explain.
- How do you feel about this program? What parts of it do you particularly like?
- How do you feel about this TV show?
- If you were a mountain climber, how would you mentally prepare yourself for such a difficult journey?

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Box 3 (Tasks)

- Research the 5 youngest mountain climbers to make the trek up Mt. Everest. Write a short biographical paragraph on each. Compare and contrast the attributes of each that make each a success in their goal. Pay special attention to where Jordan Romero lives!
- Research the Buddhist religion. What are your religious beliefs? How are Buddhist philosophies similar and different to your own beliefs?

Box 4 (Enrichment)

- Map the journey a mountain climber would take to get from the base to the top of Mt. Everest. Note the location and elevation of each camp. Describe the conditions.

Box 5 (Extend/Real-Life)

- Would you consider a career working with birds? Review this article that lists 12 career ideas that are related to birds at this link: <http://www.animaljobsdigest.com/take-flight-with-these-12-bird-lover-career-ideas/>
- Select one career idea from the list and create a plan on how you would prepare for that career. Include classes you would take, volunteer opportunities, part time work opportunities, clubs or groups that would help prepare you for the career you selected. Present your plan to a family member and ask for feedback on your plan.