

EXPLORING LANDFORMS & BODIES OF WATER

Our 3rd graders have been diving into an exciting Social Studies unit on landforms and bodies of water! Throughout the unit, students discovered the beauty and diversity of God's creation as they learned about mountains, valleys, rivers, lakes, peninsulas, and so much more. To bring their learning to life, we wrapped up the unit with a special hands-on project—each student designed and created their very own salt-dough island, complete with at least eight different landforms or bodies of water.

Once their islands were built, painted, and labeled, students couldn't wait to present their creations to the class. Each project was as unique as the student who made it—some islands featured towering mountains and winding rivers, while others had sandy beaches and sparkling lakes. The creativity and pride on display reminded us that learning is most powerful when it's both imaginative and meaningful.

This project beautifully reflected our CALLED framework. Students demonstrated Analytical Action as they researched and applied their knowledge of landforms and water features to design realistic, thoughtful models. They also practiced Engaging Each Other by sharing their work, offering feedback, and celebrating the creativity and effort of their peers. Most importantly, through Lifelong Reflection, students gained a deeper appreciation for the beauty and design in God's world—reminding us that exploration and wonder go hand in hand in every lesson we learn.

