

Chimney Rock



Chimney Rock in the Selkirk Mountains is a 380-foot column towering above Priest Lake and has the nickname of the “lightning rod” of North Idaho. The Selkirk Mountain range is a large batholith of granite that uplifted because of the Purcell Fault/Trench. These granitic batholiths were created by magmas forming far below the surface 70 to 80 million years ago. Interestingly, all of the higher Selkirk Mountains show signs of having experienced some level of glaciation. U-shaped valleys are evidence of this glaciation, along with the scoured bowl-like basins where we find lakes now. Students can use this geographic feature to ask questions about plate tectonics, landforms, weathering & erosion, and other geoscience processes.

Performance Standards

2 nd Grade	4 th Grade	Middle School	High School
2-ESS-2.2. Develop a model to represent the shapes and kinds of land and bodies of water in an area.	4-ESS-2.2. Analyze and interpret data from maps to describe patterns of Earth’s features.	MS-ESS-2.2. Construct an explanation based on evidence for how geoscience processes have changed Earth’s surface at varying time and spatial scales.	HS-ESS-2.1. Develop a model to illustrate how Earth’s internal and surface processes operate at different spatial and temporal scales to form continental and ocean-floor features.



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