

# Field Trips

## Geological Features

Scientists work in the field in order to gather data and perform experiments. This allows them to form a deeper understanding of the area. There are many different geographic features that can be seen all around the western United States.

### Study Tip

Which of these areas have you visited? Did you notice any of these features?

- In California there are:
  - A long coastal range with lots of rain and heavy forestation
  - A very fertile Central Valley
  - The Sierra Nevada mountain range and Yosemite National Park
  - Death Valley
  - Mt. Shasta (a volcanic cone)
- In Nevada there are:
  - An extremely arid climate
  - Lots of Mountains and Valleys
- In the Pacific Northwest (Washington, Oregon, Northern California) there are:
  - Coastal land and forests
  - Volcanoes
- In Idaho, Utah, and Montana there are:
  - Mountainous regions
- In Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming there are:
  - Glacier National Park (in northwestern Montana, full of glaciers, snowfields, and rocks)
  - Yellowstone National Park (in northwestern Wyoming, full of geysers and wildlife)
- In the Southwest there are:
  - An arid climate
  - Easily seen rocks and structures
  - The Grand Canyon (with “layer cake geology” that tells the “story” of the environment)
- In the Hawaiian Islands there are:
  - Volcanoes



*This is a picture from Yellowstone National Park, a place known for its geysers and herds of wild animals.*

## Concept Check

- Be able to identify how geographic features distinguish regions
- Know why it is important to travel to the regions they study