



Teacher Resource

Mount Everest

Focus Questions

Discuss the BTN story as a class and record the main points of the discussion. Students will then respond to the following:

1. What countries border Mount Everest? Find on a world map.
2. What is the name of the mountain range where Mount Everest is located?
 - a. Alps
 - b. Andes
 - c. Himalayas
3. Mount Everest is the highest mountain in the world. True or false?
4. Who were the first people to successfully climb Mount Everest?
5. Who are the Sherpa people?

Activity: Comprehension

After watching the BTN Mount Everest story students can answer one or more of the following comprehension questions, for example:

- What are some keywords from the BTN story?
- What did you learn from the story? Write a summary.
- What is the purpose of this news story? To entertain, persuade, inform, explain or describe?



EPISODE 16

9 June 2026

KEY LEARNING

Students will use maths skills to explore real-world information about Mount Everest.

CURRICULUM

Mathematics – Year 7

Compare, order and solve problems involving addition and subtraction of integers.

Mathematics – Year 5

Recognise that 100% represents the complete whole and use percentages to describe, represent and compare relative size; connect familiar percentages to their decimal and fraction equivalents.

Geography – Year 6

The geographical diversity of the Asia region and the location of its major countries in relation to Australia.

Geography – Year 8

Different types of landscapes and their distinctive landform features.

Geography – Year 7 & 8

Develop geographically significant questions and plan an inquiry, using appropriate geographical methodologies and concepts.

Science – Year 6

Sudden geological changes and extreme weather events can affect Earth's surface.

Activity: Vocabulary

Students will brainstorm a list of key words that relate to the BTN Mount Everest story. Here are some words to get them started.

MOUNT EVEREST	TALLEST PEAK	HIMALAYAS
SEA LEVEL	SHERPA	SUMMIT

Ask students to write what they think is the meaning of each word (including unfamiliar words). They will swap definitions with a partner and ask them to add to or change the definition. Check these against the dictionary definition.

Further activities for students:

- Students will add to their glossary by downloading the transcript for the BTN Mount Everest story and highlight all the words that relate to the topic.
- Where does the word *Everest* come from? Explore the history of the naming of Mount Everest.
- What is the official Nepali name for Everest? What does it translate to?
- What is the official Tibetan name for Everest? What does it translate to?

Activity: Fantastic Facts

Mount Everest is the tallest mountain on Earth measuring at 8,849 metres above sea level. There is a lot of mathematics involved in understanding mountains, from height and distance to temperature, climbing times and geographical measurements. In this activity, students will ask mathematical questions, choose one to investigate and use maths skills to explore real-world information about Mount Everest.

What's your maths question?

Ask your students to think of 2-3 maths questions they have about Mount Everest. Invite students to share one of their questions with the class. Some possible questions are:

- How much taller is Mount Everest than other famous mountains?
- How many steps does it take to walk up Mount Everest? What is the best way to estimate this?
- How many school buildings stacked on top of each other would equal the height of Mount Everest?
- What is the temperature difference between base camp and the summit of Mount Everest?
- Which month has the highest number of successful climbs?

Investigation

Students will choose one question they would like to investigate in more detail and use the guide below to support their investigation.

- What is your maths question? Write it down.
- Identify what information you need.
- Gather the data you need from trusted sources online. Record the sources that you use.
- Use mathematical calculations, diagrams, tables, graphs or models to investigate your question.
- Record your working and write a conclusion. What did you discover?

Further challenge

Students will respond to one or more of the following questions:

- What maths skills did you use during your investigation?
- What was surprising about your findings? Write 2-3 sentences.
- Complete this sentence “The most interesting maths fact I discovered about Mount Everest was...”
- What new question would you like to explore next?

Activity: TEDEd

Students will watch this [TEDEd video](#) to learn more about Mount Everest and find out why it is so tall.

Students will use the facts they have discovered about Mount Everest to create a quiz and then test their classmates. Students will include a range of quiz styles, for example:

- Multiple choice
- True or false
- Fill in the blank
- Use photos or pictures
- When an answer is revealed, provide extra information to explain the answer.

Students can make their quizzes in [Kahoot](#) or [Quizizz](#). Make it fun, engaging, and educational!



Why is Mt. Everest so tall? (Source: [TEDEd](#))



Useful Websites

- [Measuring Everest](#) – BTN
- [Why is Mount Everest so tall?](#) – TEDEd
- [Mount Everest](#) – National Geographic Kids