

Cairngorms

National Park



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Aim

- I can describe the physical features of Cairngorms National Park and can say where it is located.

Success Criteria

- Having explored my local area, I can present information on different places to live, work and relax and interesting places to visit. SOC 2-10a

Cairngorm National Park



The Cairngorms National Park is an important and spectacular area of Scotland that will be protected, conserved and enjoyed by many people for years to come.

Did you know?

- The park covers 4528 km².
- It is Britain's largest national park.
- It was set up to protect and conserve the area's natural and cultural heritage and to promote the sustainable use of its resources.
- 75% of the park is privately owned.
- 25% is owned by charities or public bodies, e.g. RSPB, Forestry Commission and Scottish Natural Heritage.

Tourism

Around 18 000 people live and work in the park; with just under half of those working in the tourist industry.

Tourism is a very important part of the Cairngorms National Park economy.

Popular tourist destinations include the Highland Wildlife Park and Dalwhinnie Distillery.

The area attracts 1.67 million visitors each year.

Queen Victoria's favourite holiday destination, the Balmoral estate, is in the Cairngorms National Park. The Royal family regularly visit this area.



Physical Features



The physical features of the Cairngorms National Park include mountains, glens, forests, lochs and rivers.



The landscape of the park has been shaped by the movement of glaciers during past ice ages.



The high summit plateau of the Cairngorms is more like the Arctic than Scotland and snow can last here all year.

Physical Features

The park also has native woodland, wetland and natural farmland. It has the largest area of native woodland in Britain which includes:



**Caledonian
Pine**



Juniper



Birch



Rowan



Aspen



Alder



Willow

There are three rivers in the park: the Dee, the Don and the Spey. All of these rivers are famous for salmon fishing.





Wildlife

Wildlife in the park include reindeer, ospreys, eagles, wildcats, capercaillie and red squirrels.

Lochs in the Cairngorms National Park are home to rare birds, otters, wild brown trout, Arctic charr and pike.

Loch Garten, near Aviemore, is famous for the Osprey centre, where these birds can be viewed when they return from Africa to breed.



Wildlife

25% of Britain's rare and endangered species live in the park.

Some animals, such as the mountain hare, the ptarmigan and the stoat have adapted to the snowy environment in the park and turn white in winter as camouflage.

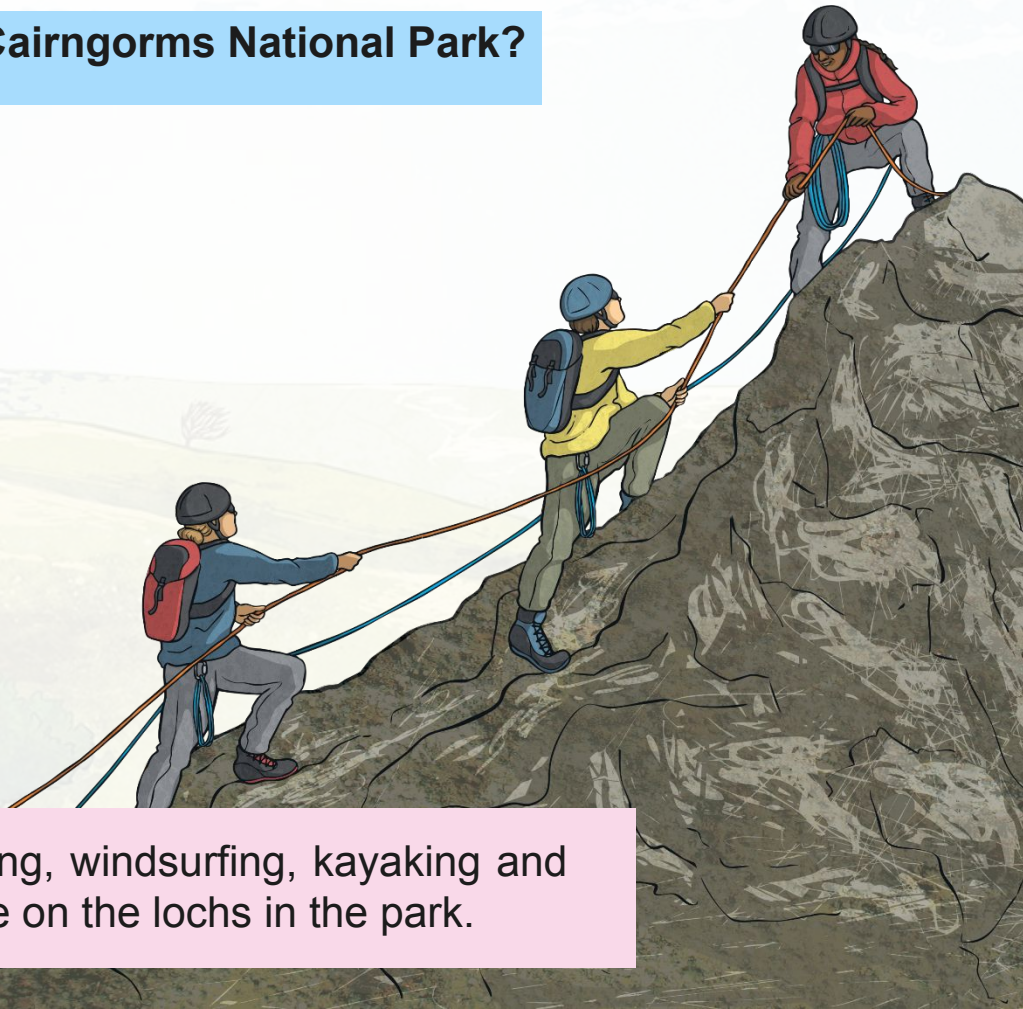


Outdoor Activities

What can you do in the Cairngorms National Park?

- Walking
- Golfing
- Riding
- Cycling
- Hiking
- Skiing
- Snowboarding
- Climbing

Water sports such as sailing, windsurfing, kayaking and paddle boarding take place on the lochs in the park.





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