





# Contrasting National Parks – Knowledge Organiser

## St Gregory's Catholic Primary School – Year 6



Key Vocabulary	
<b>National Park</b>	An area of countryside, sea or fresh water that is protected by the state for the public to enjoy.
<b>Yosemite</b>	A national park in California, United States.
<b>Snowdon</b>	A national park in Snowdonia, Wales.
<b>Plas Gwynant</b>	An outdoor education centre in North Wales.
<b>protected land</b>	An area that is protected through legal means to achieve long-term conservation of nature, ecosystems and cultural values.
<b>glaciers</b>	A huge mass of ice that moves slowly over land. Formed when snow falls and accumulates because it is unable to melt on mountains, so it forms as ice instead.
<b>erosion</b>	Materials are worn away by natural forces e.g. wind, water, etc.
<b>biomes</b>	An area of the planet that can be classified according to the plants and animals that live in it.
<b>vegetation zones</b>	Areas with similar groups of plants.
<b>tourism</b>	Travelling to a specific area for fun.

Locational and place knowledge	
Yosemite	Snowdon
	
<b>Location:</b> California, USA, North America	<b>Location:</b> Snowdonia, Wales, Europe
<b>Land space (area km²):</b> 3,027	<b>Land space (area km²):</b> 2,132
<b>Climate:</b> Mediterranean	<b>Climate:</b> Temperate
<b>Visitors (per year):</b> 4 million	<b>Visitors (per year):</b> 4.27 million
<b>Features:</b> granite cliffs, waterfalls, glaciers, rivers, clear streams, lakes and mountains.	<b>Features:</b> mountains, rivers, waterfalls, valleys, woodland and sandy beaches.

### Human and physical geography

Yosemite National Park is full of many natural **physical features**, such as: waterfalls, glaciers, rivers, streams, lakes and mountains.



The landscape of Yosemite National Park is **always changing** due to natural factors, such as **glaciers** and **erosion**.

### Water

In 1923, the City of San Francisco completed O'Shaughnessy Dam, impounding Hetch Hetchy Reservoir in Yosemite National Park. This provides water from the national park for 2 million people in San Francisco. The location of the dam within the national park caused controversy as it disrupted the beauty of the national park's physical features. San Francisco and California have changed dramatically, so the dam is now no longer needed for water supply.

### Yosemite National Park tourism

Yosemite National Park is best known for its waterfalls and deep valleys. The diverse landscape supports more than 400 species. Whilst there, people may spot many amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals. One noteworthy sighting is that of the Sierra Nevada red fox. The park is one of few places in the USA where people can see a rainbow at night.

**Things to do:** backpacking, hiking, camping, cross-country skiing, fishing, horseback riding, ice-skating, rock climbing, rafting and so much more!

