

The Andes Mountains of Peru and the llamas that live there are an important part of Peruvian culture. The tall peaks in the Andes mountains can reach over 22,000ft. That is taller than any mountain in North America. The llamas that live there have to be very strong and brave to survive in such a tough habitat.

Materials Needed: chart paper, markers

Remind children that llamas are an important symbol of Peru. Ask, *what is the sound you hear at the beginning of the word llama?* /L/ Write the uppercase and lowercase letter L on chart paper. Are there any children who have a name that begins with the letter L? Write their names on the L chart. Sign the letter L. Write the word llama on the chart paper. Ask the children to say the letters...l-l-a-m-a as you write the word on the chart. *How many Ls are in the word llama?* How many As are in the word llama? Both of the Ls are at the beginning of the word...that is very unusual! Ask children if they can think of any other L words and write them on chart paper -- make sure large and little are a part of your list.

Explain that llamas come in a variety of sizes, just like people. Some llamas are little (the babies) and some llamas grow to very large sizes, just like some grown ups do. Invite children to pose on their hands and knees, pretending to be a little llama. Remind children to keep everyone safe by paying attention to where they are in relation to their friends. Then, invite children to pose on their hands and feet, pretending to be a large llama. Play a quick game of large llama/little llama, calling one pose out at a time while children move into the corresponding large/little pose position. Be sure to call the poses out in spontaneous order to keep the game interesting. For example: large llama - little llama - little llama - little llama - large llama - little llama - large llama - etc. Remind children to listen to the differences in what you say. (Large vs. little) and to wait to change positions until they hear the different word.

Next, tell the children that you are going to call out large llama/little llama patterns for them to act out. Have children stand in a circle, call out a pattern, and then go around the circle making sure children are posed in the large or little pose that corresponds to their position in the pattern.

Examples:

- Large llama, little llama; large llama, little llama (AB pattern)
- Large llama, large llama, little llama; large llama, large llama, little llama (AAB pattern)
- Large llama, little llama, little llama; large llama, little llama, little llama (ABB pattern)

Domains/Skills and Concepts

PTLA Alignment

Physical- large llama and little llama movements, following safety rules

Language and Communication- llama, Andes, large, little, patterns; Pre-literacy - interest in print, letter recognition, initial sounds, auditory discrimination

Cognitive- Math- measurement language, recognizing and creating patterns; Science- moving bodies, sizes of llamas; Social Studies/Culture- llamas in Peru

Social/Emotional- impulse control, social skills to participate in groups, willingness

Approaches to Learning- focus, willingness, flexibility, effort

3K: 3-PD.1,7;
3-LLD.9,11,15,16;
3-CD.2,5,10,17;
3-SED.6,10;
3-AL.1,9,13
4K: 4-PD.1,2,7;
4-LLD.8,9,14;
4-CD.2,6,13,19;
4-SED.7,8,12;
4-AL.1,10,15

The tall peaks in the Andes mountains of Peru can reach over 22,000ft. That is taller than any mountain in North America. Llamas are found in the Andes Mountains and are known to be brave and strong.

Materials Needed: triangles cut into three different sizes (large/big, medium, small/little); Enough for each child to have several of each size

Remind children that the Andes mountains are found in Peru. Explain to the children that they are going to pretend that the triangles are the Andes mountains and that some mountains are taller than others. Show them the three different sizes of mountains (triangles) that they will be working with. Talk about the sizes of the triangles (either large/big, medium, or small/little) as you show them.

Provide children with their own stack of triangles. Ask them to find a large, medium, and small triangle. After they have, then ask them to put those three triangles in order, from largest to smallest. After they have done that, then ask them to put the three triangles in order smallest to largest. This is called seriation.

Next, invite the children to sort their triangles into piles of large, medium, and small mountains. Count the number of mountains in each pile. You can also create patterns out of the large, medium, and small mountains.

Younger children: If you create a pattern with the mountains, remember to start with a pattern that is easy for them to repeat. For example: large, small, large, small. If children are able to follow that pattern then move a more challenging pattern. For example: Large, large, small, large, large, small or Large, medium, small, large, medium, small.

Older children: After they have seriated their triangles both ways, then ask them to put their triangle mountains in the ordinal positions that you give them. For example: First- put a large triangle in front of you, Second- put another large triangle in front of you, Third- put a small triangle in front of you, Fourth- put a medium triangle in front of you and Fifth- put a small triangle in front of you. Then, ask them to point to the third triangle, fourth triangle, etc.

Extension Experience

Invite children to glue the triangles of different sizes, on construction paper to create a mountain scene. Talk about the size and where on the paper children can glue the triangle mountains. [Domains Addressed: Physical, Language and Communication, Cognitive, Social-Emotional, Approaches to Learning]

Domains/Skills and Concepts

PTLA Alignment

Physical- manipulating shapes

Language and communication- Peru, Andes mountains, seriation language, measurement language; Pre-literacy- visual discrimination

Cognitive- Math-seriation, measurement language, sorting by the variable of size, ordinal positions, one to one correspondence; Science- natural science mountain peaks in different sizes; Culture/Social Studies- Andes Mountains in Peru

Social/emotional- confidence

Approaches to Learning- eagerness, focused attention, time on task

3K: 3-PD.5;

3-LLD.9;

3-CD.5,6,10,17;

3-SED.8;

3-AL.8,12,13

4K: 4-PD.5; 4-LLD.8;

4-CD.5,6,7,13,19;

4-SED.5; 4-10,14