

STUDENT HANDOUT PAGE

FOR INQUIRY ACTIVITY - 8th GRADE SCIENCE

Introduction: Table Rock Mountain is located in Pickens County, SC and is part of the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountain range. Its predominant rock type is the metamorphic rock **gneiss**.

Problem: An aerial photo was taken of Table Rock State Park. However, we are unable to identify the major features in the photograph because they are not labeled. How would you suggest we go about locating major features on this aerial photograph?

Write a brief **Hypothesis** that addresses this problem and suggests a way to solve it:

Group Questions:

1. Find and mark (with a wipe-off pen) the following locations on the topographic map:
 - a. Table Rock Restaurant
 - b. Pinnacle Mountain
 - c. Slicking Falls
 - d. Table Rock Mountain
2. Locate and mark the same four major locations (from Question 1) on the aerial photograph.
3. Calculate the **topographic relief** of Table Rock Mountain using the Table Rock Reservoir as the lowest elevation and the mountain top as the highest elevation.
4. Determine the **contour interval** of the topographic map.
5. Calculate the **slope** of the north face of Table Rock Mountain. Use the following equation:

$$\text{Slope} = \frac{\text{difference in elevation between two points on the map}}{\text{horizontal distance between the two points on the map}}$$

6. What do you think the different colors on the aerial photograph represent?

Review your Hypothesis and write a general Conclusion:

Bonus: What is the approximate **latitude** and **longitude** designation for Table Rock Restaurant?