



Google Arts & Culture

A World of Difference

Introduction

A World of Difference

Join us as we explore one person's journey, documenting different cultures from around the world.

This lesson plan is designed to support you as you explore Google Arts & Culture stories related to the lesson topic. This lesson is suitable for anyone but is recommended for students aged 11-14 years.

You can complete the lesson on your own working at home, with a group of friends, or in your classroom. They are designed so that you can work through them at a pace that suits you.

If you get stuck, you can talk to a teacher or parent.

Throughout the lesson you will find tasks to complete and questions to answer, so when you reach the end, you will have used a range of skills to create something on your own that demonstrates your knowledge and understanding of the subject.

All you need to get started is any device with internet access.

Join us in discovering the interesting people, cultures and ecosystems which Angelo Chiaccio encountered during his travels.

Things you'll need to complete this lesson.



Tablet, laptop or computer with access to the internet.



Paper, or a notebook, and pen to make notes as you go.



Drawing materials, such as coloring pens and pencils, paper etc.



Scissors, glue, scrap paper and general stationery items.



Art materials, specifically paints and brushes.



A printer would be beneficial but not necessary – why not draw instead?

Explore & Discover

A World of Difference

What can you expect to learn?

In this lesson you will learn about some of the Indigenous peoples and cultures that Angelo encountered. Also discover different ecosystems and explore the beauty of some of the most remote places on earth. Here you will see mountains, rainforests, small islands, deserts, and other natural environments.

Activities to complete

1. Review Angelo's journey and calculate the total length of his journey.
2. Consider doing something positive to help the environment in your local community. What can you do to help?
3. Test your recall of new terms with a word search.

Outcomes you will achieve

- Learn about Angelo's journey and gain a better understanding of how diverse the people of the world are.
- Appreciate the wide variety of ecosystems and how vulnerable some of these are to changes in climate.
- Explore new places and learn more about the people who live there and about their cultures.
- Learn about the efforts to preserve some of these places.

Look out for the following tips which tell you what to do when during the lesson.



Key information to remember and to help guide you through the lesson.



Estimated time to complete a section or activity within the lesson.



Optional headphones to listen to videos and audio recordings.



Explore online content. Discover videos, stories, and zoom into pictures.



Activity - time to design, make or write something of your own.



Vocabulary

Words to look out for in the lesson

accessible, agriculture, Ainu, animist, archipelago, bai, biodiversity, braided, calciferous, coastal, coral reef, craft, cultivate, economy, ecosystem, entrepreneur, Erembe, erosion, expedition, fauna, flora, foreign, fragile, Gaucho, generation, geology, globalization, guayare, habitat, hardwood, herder, heritage, Himbu, homestead, Ice Age, independent, indigenous, investment, ita, kamay, kimono, lasso, legend, livestock, loom, matriarchal, microclimate, migrant, model, mythology, nomad, ornate, ort, otzije, overfishing, plait, plateau, pollution, prehistoric, preservation, prosperity, quartz, rank, rastra, rebenque, regional, replica, scenery, technology, tepuis, terrace, tourism, tradition, tropical, Tsaatan, UNESCO, vegetation, whip



[Himba otjize-textured hair plaits, Angelo Chiacchio, 2018, Ephemera documentary](#)

What is this lesson about?

Learn more about the world you live in. Follow in Angelo's footsteps as you explore some of the places he visited. Appreciate the different cultures he encountered and find out about interesting ecosystems and some of their unique features.



This lesson will take around 120 minutes.

A World of Difference

Introduction

In 2018, shortly after turning 30, Angelo Chiacchio embarked on a 300-day journey around the world to document 30 disappearing cultures. Google Arts & Culture is collaborating with him to bring the content he collected online.

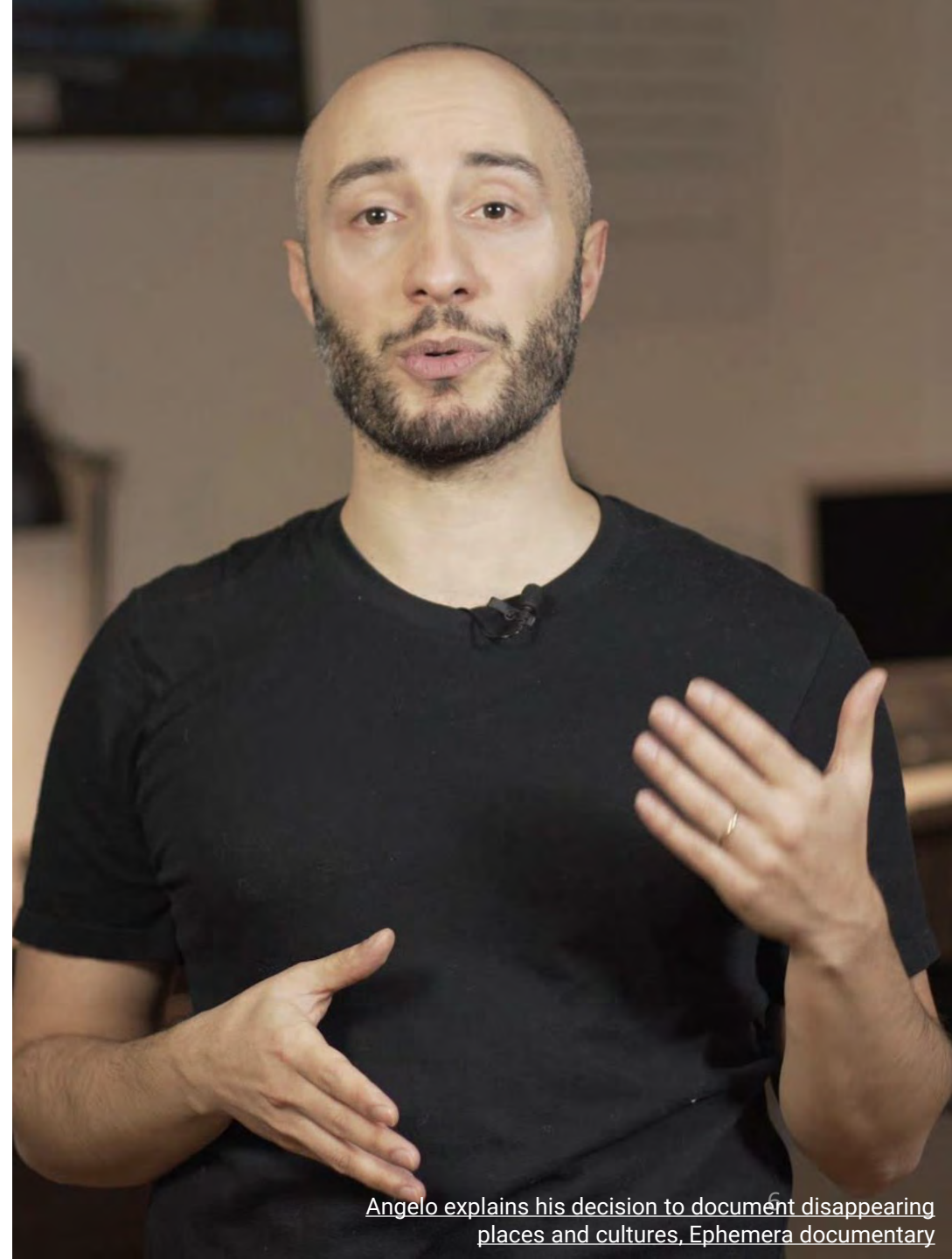
As a photographer and filmmaker, Angelo wanted to use this opportunity to explore a changing world, recording and highlighting the diverse and fragile planet we live on. This lesson is an opportunity to meet some of the people he encountered and learn more about their cultures. You will also get to explore some of the ecosystems he visited and gain a better understanding of the earth through the videos and photographs he took during his adventure.

Angelo was born in 1986, in Episcopia, southern Italy. From an early age he was fascinated by technology and this has continued in his adult life. He left his village to study and travel around Europe and is now based in Paris. Here he works as a designer to investigate the historic, present and potential future use of technology.

Angelo also continues his work as a film-maker and photographer, capturing life as it happens around him.



If you make notes on the stories you read, this will help you for the end of lesson quiz.



Angelo explains his decision to document disappearing places and cultures, Ephemera documentary

This is a map that shows Angelo's journey around the world. Angelo's trip started and finished in Basilicata, the region in Southern Italy he's from. In February 2018, he set off on his journey from his hometown Episcopea. He travelled the world before reaching his final destination, Matera, Italy, in November of the same year.



Map of Angelo's travels, Ephemera documentary



[Hierapolis theatre, Angelo Chiacchio, 2018, Ephemera documentary](#)

Cultures

Angelo Chiacchio stayed with many families during his trip. In doing so, he was able to explore and capture their unique lives and traditions first-hand. A core aim of the trip was to showcase the wide variety and difference in cultures from across the world. You can explore some of them in this chapter.



This chapter will take around 50 minutes.

Exploring Cultures and Traditions



[Ainu artisan with an Ita, Angelo Chiacchio, 2018, Ephemera documentary](#)

Ainu Culture Another Japan

The Ainu are an Indigenous people from Japan, who live in connection with nature. In June 2018, Angelo visited the Nibutani district in Hokkaido, which has the highest percentage of residents with Ainu lineage in Japan. Learn about the ways Ainu culture is being preserved.



[Portrait of Tsaatan woman, Angelo Chiacchio, 2018, Ephemera documentary](#)

Tsaatan People Reindeer Herders

Angelo visited this semi-nomadic community of reindeer herders on his journey to Mongolia. They move their tents, which are called 'orts', three or four times a year, wherever is best for grazing. Learn how they work and live with their reindeer, who are at the centre of their lives.



[Portrait of old himba woman, Angelo Chiacchio, 2018, Ephemera documentary](#)

Women of the Himba Tribe

On his visit to Opuwo in Namibia, Angelo stayed with the last semi-nomadic community there. Whilst there he learned about the lives and roles of the women in the Himba Tribe. He also witnessed the impact the modern world is beginning to have on them.



[Portrait of old gaucho, Angelo Chiacchio, 2018, Ephemera documentary](#)

The Argentinian Gaucho

During a week-long stay in Chacosmùs, Angelo stayed with a gaucho and his family in order to learn more about the lifestyle of these South American horseman and cowhands. During his visit he was able to witness the remarkable skills of the gaucho and to learn about their customs and routines.



Now living mainly on the island of Hokkaido in Japan, the Ainu are an Indigenous people who once lived widely across Japan and some parts of Russia.

Traditionally the Ainu were hunters and gatherers, living from the land and local rivers. With a belief system centred around multiple gods linked with nature, the ways in which they work with the land are respectful and look to achieve balance.

Since the 19th century, widespread Japanese colonisation has had a lasting impact on Ainu cultures and traditions, which are now in significant danger of being lost.

The Ainu have their own language, which is spoken and not written. This is one of core areas of Ainu culture most at risk, as it is only spoken by a relatively small number of people.

In Angelo's visit to Nibutani, he showcases the renewed appreciation of Ainu culture and traditions and the efforts to preserve these before they become extinct.

[Explore](#)



In the wilds of Northern Mongolia, on the border with Russia, the Tsaatan people live in harmony with their herd of reindeer.

The Tsaatan people are nomadic, moving the herd to find the best grazing opportunities for the reindeer. The reindeer are at the heart of their daily life, cultures, and traditions.

Tents, called 'orts', are pitched to make camp. The orts utilize wooden poles made from the trees in each area they camp in and provide their space for cooking and sleeping.

Climate change has impacted on the landscape the Tsaatan live in, resulting in less snow. This has had an impact on the movement of the reindeer and extended how far they can roam. In turn, this has put a strain on the Tsaatan way of life.

Learn more about the Tsaatan people and their culture and traditions from Angelo's time with them.

[Explore](#)





In northern Namibia, the Himba people live a semi-nomadic lifestyle, amongst an often-harsh desert climate.

Himba culture has been preserved by limiting outside influences. Although they are generous and friendly, their communities live in isolation to nearby towns and populations in order to preserve their way of life.

The Himba are pastoral farmers, growing crops and tending herds of goats and cattle. They rarely eat meat; their animals are viewed as sacred and a sign of a family's wealth.

The women in Himba communities are often recognized for their practice of using '*otjize*', a mixture of ochre and butter fat, to rub into their skin. They do this to protect their skin from the severe climate. They also use it for hygiene instead of water, with the color symbolizing the closeness to the earth.

In Angelo's visit, he sought to document the changing lives of Himba women.

[Explore](#)



Gauchos are iconic figures of tradition and skill in Argentina. They can be found in other South American countries, like Uruguay and Brazil as well.

Known for their highly-skilled horsemanship, Gauchos tend livestock like cattle and sheep, using traditional methods, equipment and clothing.

Their culture has a rich history, dating back to the 18th and 19th centuries. There is a whole genre of literature, folk stories and music dedicated to telling the stories of the Gaucho.

Currently, the traditional Gaucho way of life is under threat from changes to farming techniques and the influx of technology. Many Gauchos are striving to uphold the traditions of previous generations and preserve the skills, techniques and way of life.

Explore the life of the Gaucho through Angelo's visit.

[Explore](#)





Activity 1

Cultures Word Search



Print out a copy or recreate the word search grid yourself, and then find the terms listed on the right. The terms are found in the vocabulary section on page 4 of this lesson.



Extra Challenge

Angelo met many people on his travels, from many different cultures. Consider your own cultural heritage and how you would write about it.

Ask your family about your background, in terms of your family tree. Who was your great grandmother, or grandfather? Where did they come from? Where were they born? What traditions were important to them?

Once you have researched this, write a 100-word piece about your cultural heritage. You can go as far back in time as your family history allows.



[Portrait of Turkish agricultural worker, Angelo Chiacchio, 2018, Ephemera documentary](#)

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b h u n i a h y h k m d m t v
n i s v n z o e v u a z i n c
i m o c s d m k s m b a c a c
j b i d b w e r o j l q r s w
p a d n i a s n l p m n o t a
d l g i x v t l a y g b c a o
h v a e y s e y v c o v l a k
a r u t w n a r j u r c i s o
b u c r e d d k s y n s m t k
i c h s r a j i s i a m a f h
t m o g i s u o c n t z t s t
a t z u v a e z u u e y e i i
t q k t u q t a s w o s s a l
n b i m s i f s p x c m c y x
f k c z g t s a v w l r z e v

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Can you find the words below in the grid above?

biodiversity
homestead
microclimate
plait
fauna
nomad
plateau
lasso
habitat
ornate

Add the 4 cultures you have just studied.

Remember – look for words running up, down, vertically, horizontally, diagonally, or even backwards.





Looking at Tucson valley from Mt Lemmon, Angelo Chiacchio, 2018, Ephemera documentary

Ecosystems

In this chapter you will discover some of the geological features and ecosystems that Angelo came across in his journey. You will learn more about how fragile some of them are and what solutions are in place to help preserve them.



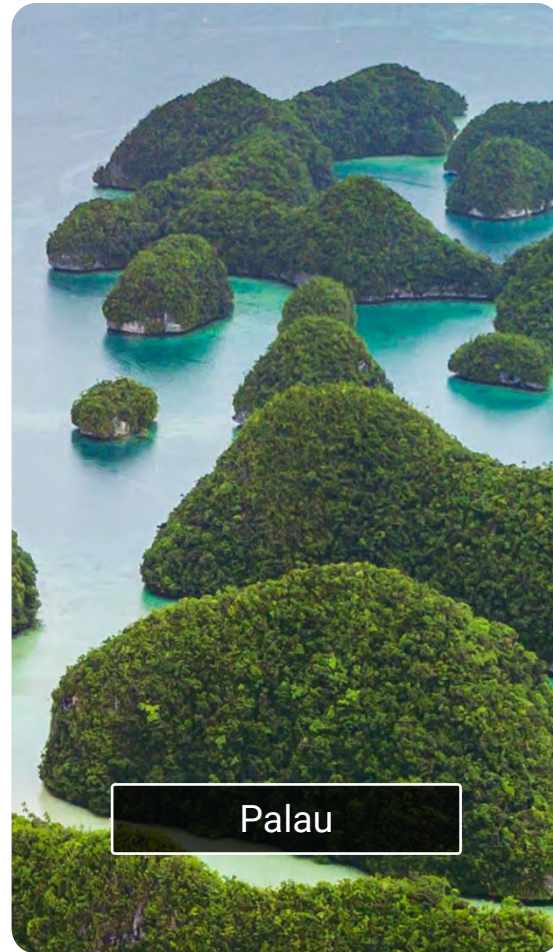
This chapter will take around 50 minutes.

Ecosystems: Deserts, Islands, Thermal Terraces and Mountains



Lençóis Maranhenses

[Lençóis Maranhenses, Angelo Chiacchio, 2018, Ephemera documentary](#)



Palau

[Aerial view of Seventy Islands, Palau, Angelo Chiacchio, 2018, Ephemera documentary](#)



Pamukkale

[Detail of white travertine in Pamukkale, Angelo Chiacchio, 2018, Ephemera documentary](#)



Mount Roraima

[Aerial view of Mt Roraima, Angelo Chiacchio, 2018, Ephemera documentary](#)

Lençóis Maranhenses

From sand dunes to freshwater lagoons

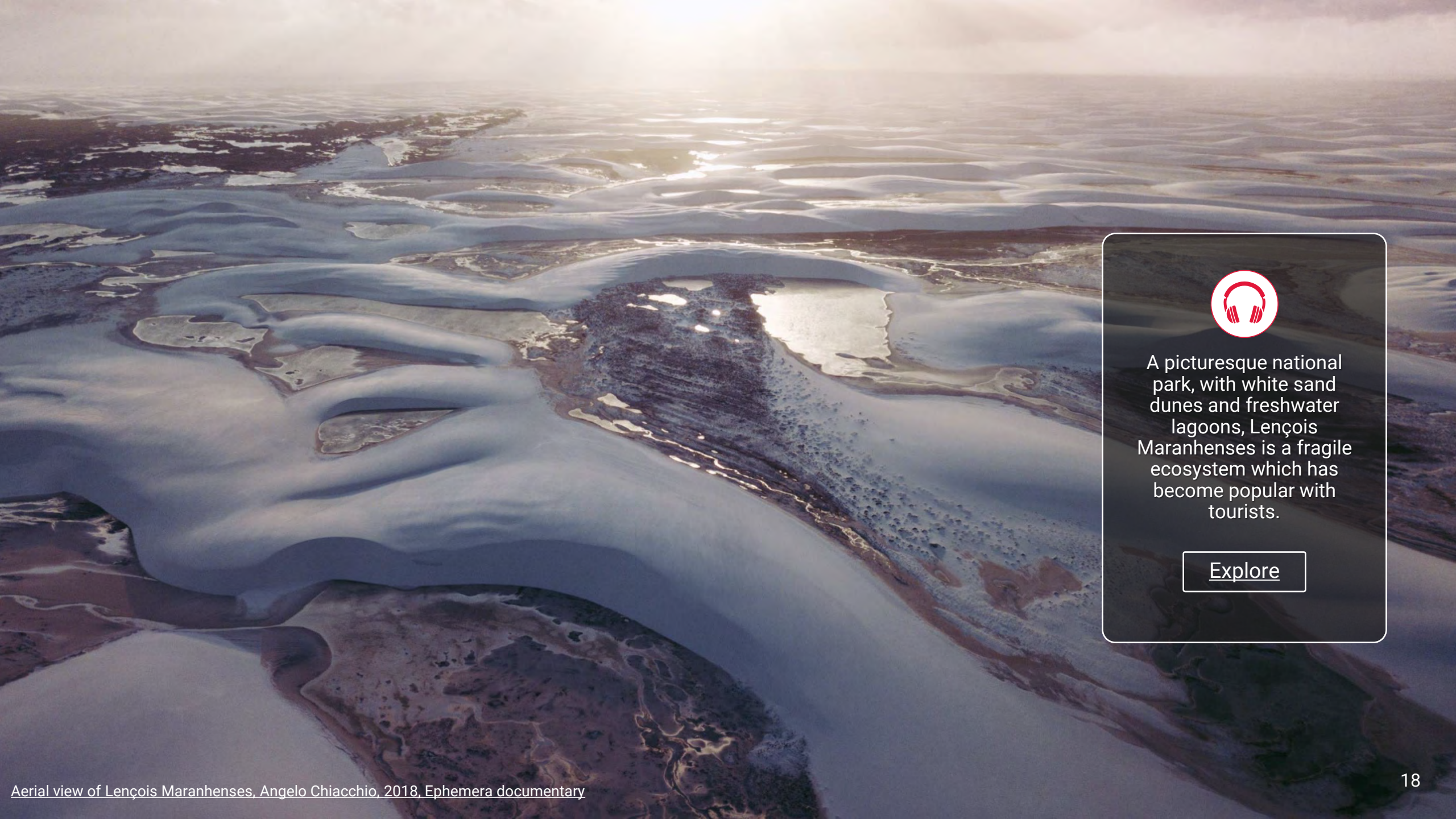
Known for its contrasting landscapes of sand dunes and crystal-clear lagoons, Lençóis Maranhenses is a coastal national park located in north-eastern Brazil. It is bordered by the Atlantic Ocean and is around 1500 sq km in size. Although it looks much like a desert, it is not classed as one as it has significant rainfall during the year.

The park is subject to distinctly different weather patterns throughout the year, which change the landscape considerably. From July to December, the weather is hot and dry. High winds whip around sand dunes, created by sand blown inland from the coast over many thousands of years. From January to June the park experiences a rainy season full of torrential rainstorms, which create freshwater lagoons in the valleys between the dunes. The lagoons disappear towards the end of the dry season, after the extreme heat causes them to evaporate.

Lençóis Maranhenses is home to a wide range of different species, including fish, turtles, birds, and reptiles. Even though the lagoons disappear in the dry season, the park is home to many freshwater fish, when the lagoons are present.

The park has become a popular destination for eco-tourism, particularly during the beginning and middle of the dry season. It is popular with both Brazilian and international visitors and this has grown the local economy. However, the park and its fragile ecosystem, are at risk from both climate change and the increased demands on natural resources due to tourism.





A picturesque national park, with white sand dunes and freshwater lagoons, Lençóis Maranhenses is a fragile ecosystem which has become popular with tourists.

[Explore](#)

Life in Palau

A small island country in Oceania

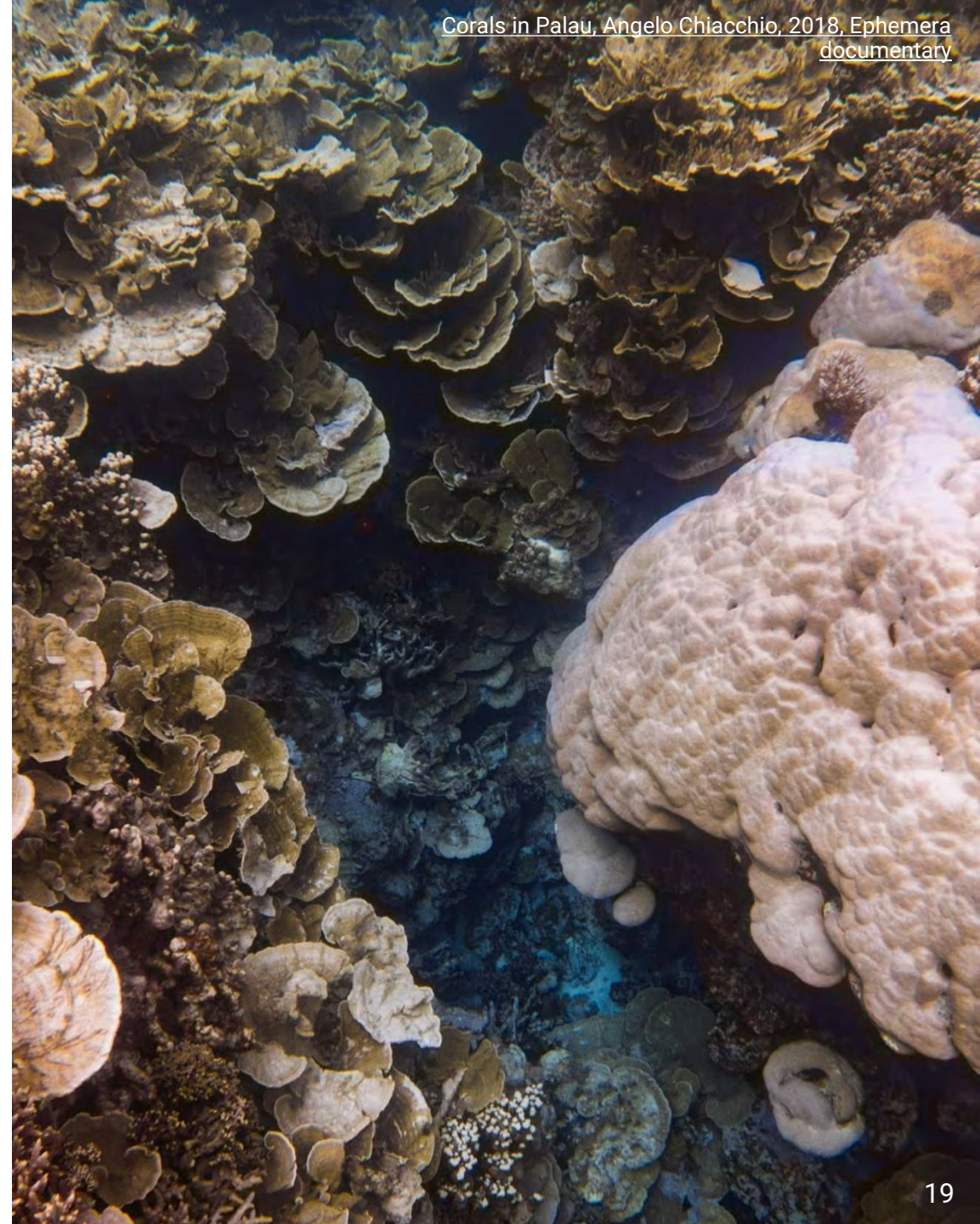
Located in the South Pacific Ocean, Palau is made up of an archipelago of islands. The area is rich and biodiverse, both on the islands and in the surrounding water.

Known as the 'underwater Serengheti', Palau's waters are host to a vast array of different species living in large areas of coral reef. Underwater caverns also support different species of marine life and often prove popular with divers.

Palau is a popular destination for diving tourists looking to explore the underwater environment, the caves and the numerous shipwrecks in the surrounding waters. Visitors are also drawn to the beautiful landscapes on the islands themselves, which are often coral or volcanic islands, which is the case for larger islands like Babelthuab and Koror.

The people of Palau have seen much change, both in terms of politics and in terms of tourism. After hundreds of years of occupation by other countries like Germany and the US, Palau became an independent country in 1981. It has since had to deal with complex diplomatic issues.

Palau has also had to manage fluctuating tourism which has placed demands on the area and had a bearing on jobs and the local and national economies. Alongside this climate change and rising sea levels are also having an impact on this fragile ecosystem.





An area rich in diversity is facing ever-increasing challenges. Click Explore to learn about the people and lands of Palau.

[Explore](#)



Activity 2

How far did Angelo travel?



On page 7, you can see a map of Angelo's route around the world. Using an online map, and a distance measuring tool, can you work out how many kilometres he travelled?



Angelo started in Episcopia, Italy. His first visit was to Pamukkale, in Turkey. The final place visited was Matera, Italy.

The full map can be found on this [link](#). You can calculate your answer in kilometres or miles. You can assume that Angelo flew between each place on his journey. The answer is on page 29.

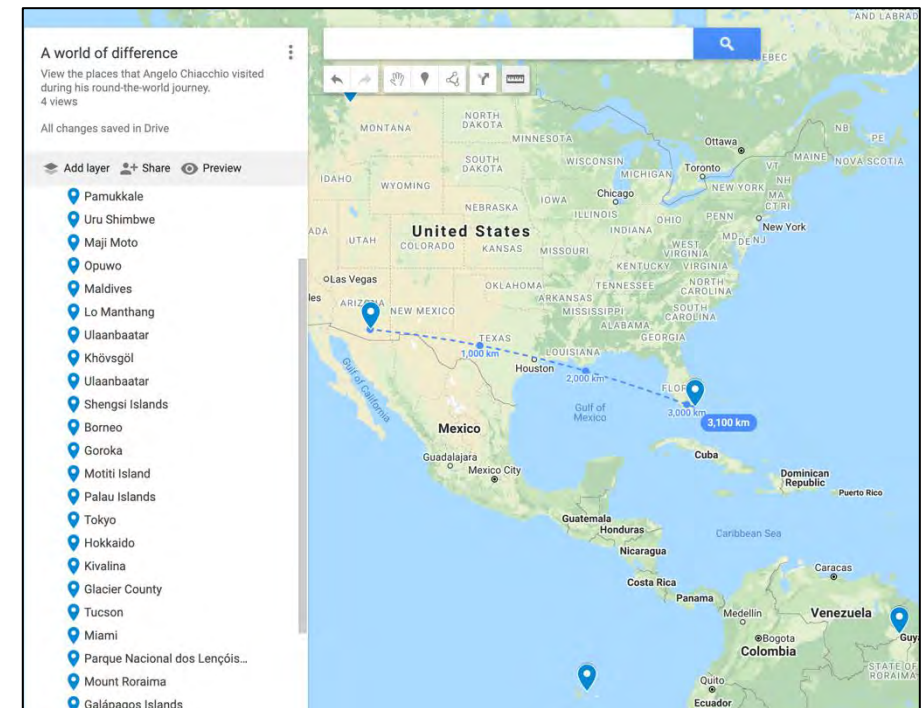


Extra Challenge

Consider places around the world you would like to visit. It is now your turn to take a virtual tour of the world. Choose ten countries, research and write down five interesting things about each country. Then explain what appeals about visiting that country and what you would hope to get out of your visit.



If you have time plot the points on a world map and calculate the distance you would travel if you were to visit the countries in one trip.



Screengrab: Google Maps measuring tool, Google





The Thermal Terraces in Pamukkale

Tourism designed to promote preservation

The thermal terraces of Pamukkale are located in southern Turkey. A popular destination for visitors, particularly since Roman times, the area is known for its mineral hot springs. These are said to have healing properties and people visit to bathe in the springs.

The terraces are known as 'The Cotton Castle' as they resemble cotton, which is what Pamukkale means in Turkish. They are located on the side of a mountain, where there are 17 hot springs. The terraces are a natural phenomena, shaped by the deposits from the calcium-rich hot spring water.

The Romans built the city of Hieropolis at the site and the ruins of the ancient city also attract visitors to the area.

As a result of excessive and unmanaged tourism to the area, the thermal terraces were at risk of permanent ruin. The classification of Hieropolis and Pamukkale as a UNESCO World Heritage site led to many changes; these were put in place to protect and preserve the landscape and create a model for sustainable tourism.



Once an area at risk of permanent damage, Pamukkale is now protected from being destroyed by tourism, whilst still providing an inviting destination for visitors.

Explore



Mount Roraima

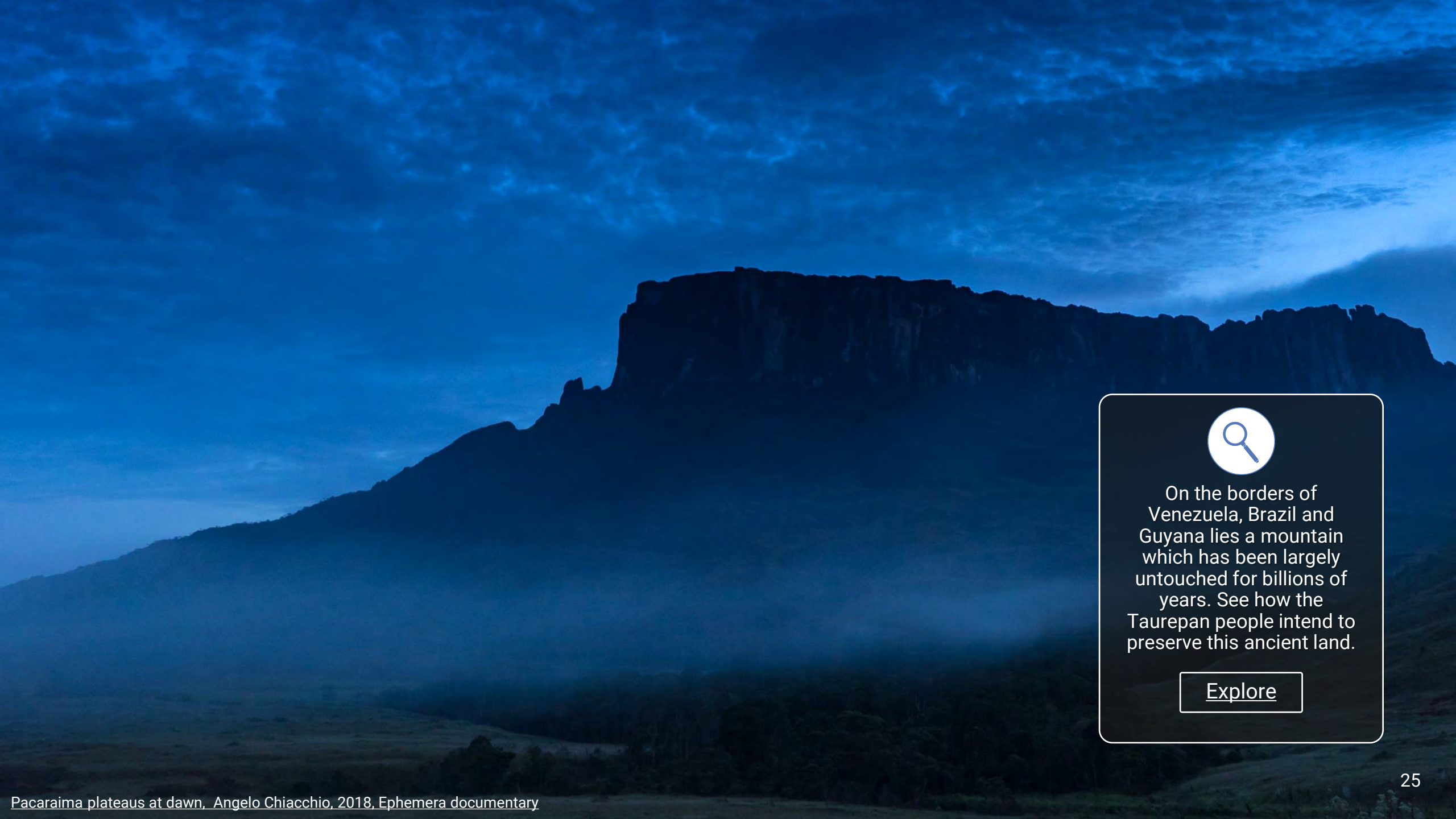
Oldest geological formations on Earth

Mount Roraima, the tallest 'tepui' plateau or table mountain in the Pakaraima mountain range, is located on the borders of Venezuela, Guyana and Brazil.

It is home to unique ecosystem of flora and fauna, only found in this mountain range, with two that are only found on Mount Roraima. The environment is fragile and, since it rains on the mountain range almost daily, the soil suffers from run-off. The mountain is rich in waterfalls and rivers, which people must traverse when climbing.

The natural untouched beauty of the plateaux has drawn tourists from around the world. However, Mount Roraima is one of the most inaccessible locations in the world. It has only one route that doesn't require climbing equipment, which is located on the Venezuelan side. To protect the mountain and the safety of hikers, anyone climbing the mountain has to be accompanied by Indigenous Taurepan guides, who lead the expeditions and carry equipment.

The Taurepan people are fiercely protective of the mountain. For them it is a place of cultural and spiritual importance. Their challenge is to ensure it is not damaged by the influx of tourists, who pose a risk to the untouched nature of the area.



On the borders of Venezuela, Brazil and Guyana lies a mountain which has been largely untouched for billions of years. See how the Taurepan people intend to preserve this ancient land.

[Explore](#)



Activity 3

What can you do to help?



One of the main aims of Angelo's journey was to use the latest technology (drone cameras, video and photography) to document how diverse and fragile some of the world's natural heritage is.

The legacy of his trip is the digital record of the places he visited and peoples he stayed with, which gives a wider audience an understanding of these people and places.

Now consider what small thing you can do to improve your environment. This can be in your home, village/town or local area. Choose one of the following options. Perhaps try to do at least one thing in your home and one in your community.

What can you do in your home?

- See if you can reduce your use of plastic.
- Litter pick around your house and on your street.
- Recycle your garbage at home.
- Feed the birds that come into your garden. Take photos or videos of the birds that you see.
- Create insect and other small animal homes in your garden. Create a blog and document the different insects that visit your garden.
- Plant wildflower seeds in a part of your garden.

What can you do in your local community?

- Create a newsletter to suggest ways that people can reduce their use of plastic.
- Work with your local council/mayor's office/school to organize a community litter pick in your area. Document what you find.
- Create a digital record of the flora and fauna in your local community.
- Consider setting up a social media group where people in your local area take photos/videos of interesting flora and fauna that they find in the local area and upload them to the group.



You may need help from your parents or teacher with this activity



[Beach Clean-Up near Historic Beach House, NASA, 2017-04-12, NASA](#)





Quiz

End of Lesson Quiz

See if you can recall what you have learnt from this lesson. How many questions can you answer without going back through the pages.

1. Where can you find the Tsaatan peoples?
2. What is geologically significant about Mount Roraima?
3. Name a career that Angelo Chiacchio had before going on his trip?
4. What is a Gaucho?
5. What type of landscape surrounds the Sky Islands?
6. Which ocean can you find the Republic of Palau?
7. Did Angelo travel the world in a clockwise or anti-clockwise direction?
8. What do the adult Himba women use to cover their braided hair?



[arcade game: Computer Quiz Nutting Associates, 1968, The Strong National Museum of Play](#)





[Uros islands from above, Angelo Chiacchio, 2018, Ephemera documentary](#)

Want to Learn More?



Now you've completed this lesson you may want to continue to find out more about the project, [this](#) is a good place to start. To find out about other projects supported by Artworks for Change then have a look at [here](#).

Activity 1 - Answers

Can you work it out?

Here are the answers for calculating how far Angelo travelled.

Did you achieve a Gold (2% difference), Silver 5% (difference), or Bronze score (10% difference), find out now?

Gold score - $92,000 \text{ km} \pm 2,000 \text{ km}$ / $57,500 \text{ mi} \pm 1,000 \text{ mi}$

Silver score - $92,000 \text{ km} \pm 4,600 \text{ km}$ / $57,500 \text{ mi} \pm 3,000 \text{ mi}$

Bronze score - $92,000 \text{ km} \pm 9,000 \text{ km}$ / $57,500 \text{ mi} \pm 5,500 \text{ mi}$

Quiz Answers

End of Lesson Quiz

Here are the answers to the quiz. How did you do?

1. Mongolia
2. It is the oldest geological formation on earth.
3. Either: designer, photographer or filmmaker.
4. A skilled horseman (cowboy) from South America (Argentina).
5. Desert
6. The Pacific Ocean.
7. Clockwise
8. Oetzije paste

Detail of a wharenui, a communal house of the Māori people, in Rotorua, Angelo Chiacchio, 21st Century, Ephemera documentary

