

Appendix 2 - The Alps in my Backpack



1. WHAT IS IT?

A picnic tablecloth, a nap blanket, a protection tarp for hot or rainy days?

All of these and much more!

"The Alps in my backpack" is indeed a multifunctional gear, but it is first and foremost a cross-country teaching support that you can easily carry in the provided bag or in your backpack during your outings.

It is a useful instrument for animations and educational activities on the field in connection with the Alps, the mountain heritage and the Alpine protected areas.

2. THE CONTENTS

A map... to not get lost!



The central element of the pedagogical tool is a map of the Alps. Protected areas, mounts and peaks, rivers and lakes are among the elements present in the map that can help the users to localize themselves, but also to realize they are part of a sole region with a common natural and cultural heritage.

Game tip: You may use this area of the canvas for a board game set in Alps. Participants may play the role of different animals moving across different protected areas.

In good company



Human beings are not alone in the Alps. They have several companions conducting their own life and interacting with each other. Every inhabitant of the Alps leaves a footprint in the environment both in a figurative and scientific sense, but also in a literal sense.

Game tip: Guess who? Place labels to cover the animals' names. Can you still recognize the different inhabitants of the Alps from their footprint?

A sole region with a heterogeneous set of landscapes

All the landscapes of the Alps share some similarities, but at the same time they are also different from each other. In this area of the canvas you can appreciate different kind of human activities and traditions, landscapes, and vital resources of the Alps.

Game tip: What are the differences and the similarities in these landscapes? Write keywords on some post-it and let the users stick them to the correspondent landscape tile.

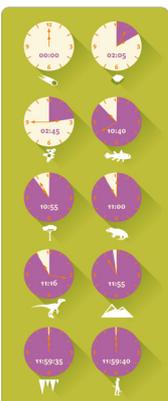


The formation of the Alps: a story long millions of years

This area of the canvas shows a simplified timeline of planet Earth's lifetime.

When framing the formation process of mountains within the lifetime of the planet it is easier to realize that mountains are not that old after all. They are really young and they might change in the future. This is why it is important to preserve them!

Game tip: If we could summarize the life of the Earth in twelve hours when would we see the birth of the Alps? Are they younger than dinosaurs? Did they appear before trees? Cover some icons and then make your guess!



3. THE ALPS IN MY BACKPACK & YOUTH AT THE TOP

Some ALPARC members have already had the chance to use “The Alps in my Backpack” for some educational activities. We know it is a flexible tool for every kind of audience, but the gamification potential and all the other features and contents mentioned above make it the perfect support for animations addressed to young people during the international event Youth at the Top.

Thanks to the simultaneous presence of hundreds of young people in different locations all over the Alps, Youth at the Top is the perfect event to better convey the contents of the pedagogical tool and maximize the spreading of the knowledge about the common cultural and natural heritage of the Alps.



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The Alps in my Backpack & Youth at the Top:
just meant for each other!



4. WHO MADE IT?

“The Alps in my Backpack” was created during a collective and inclusive process by the members of the Working Group “Mountain Environmental Education in Alpine Protected Areas”. They were looking for a common, simple and practical tool that could support them during their animations and educational activities in order to approach the alpine issues on a larger scale, with a global perspective and beyond the usual borders.

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