

TOPIC 2: EXPLORING NEPAL AND THE HIMALAYAS

10 FAST FACTS!

1. Nepal has 8 of the 10 highest mountains in the world, which is why some people call Nepal *The roof of the world*. Mount Everest, the world's tallest mountain, is in the Himalayan mountains, the highest mountain range on earth.
2. Nepal has the greatest altitude change of any location on Earth. The lowlands are at sea level and the mountains of the Himalayas are the tallest in the world.
3. Nepal is home to many exotic animals, such as tigers, elephants, snow leopards, rhinos, red pandas and fresh water dolphins. These animals are all endangered: the Bengal tiger, snow leopard, the Asiatic elephant and red panda.
4. The capital city of Nepal is Kathmandu.
5. A favourite food in Nepal is a dish called *dal bhaat*. It consists of rice and lentils.
6. Nepal is among the poorest countries in the world. One quarter of the population (one out of every four people) live below the poverty line, which means they don't have enough money to pay for basics like food, clothing and medicine.
7. Nepal is the birthplace of the Buddhist religion, although Hindu is also a major religion.
8. Mountaineer Tenzing Norgay is one of the most famous Nepalis.
9. The national flag of Nepal is the only flag in the world that isn't a rectangle.
10. People in Nepal don't say hello with a wave or a handshake. Instead, they put their palms together and bow their forehead and say *Namaste*.

