

The **Principality of Asturias** is in the North of Spain on the coast of the Cantabrian Sea. The Cantabrian **mountains** make the southern **border**, next to the province of León. Asturias has different types of **landscapes** – **mountains, valleys, rivers, and coast.**



Cabo de Peñas

The Coast

The **coast** in Asturias is very long, with hundreds of **beaches, cliffs** and **bays**. There are also lots of **fishing villages**. A famous beach is the Playa de Silencio (Beach of Silence) near the fishing village of Cudillero. There are other beaches near the **tourist resort** of Llanes, such as Barro and Ballota. Most of the beaches are **sandy** and clean, with **cliffs**. On top of the cliffs you can see cows in the **fields**.

The Rivers

There are lots of **rivers** in Asturias. The **source** of these is the Cantabrian mountains. They are short rivers but have a lot of water. The most important river is the Nalón, the **mouth** of this river is in the Pravia **estuary**. Other important rivers are the Sella, Narcea and the Navia. The rivers are very clean and are famous for salmon and trout fishing.

Read and answer the questions.

- a What is the source of the rivers in Asturias?

- b What is the name of the famous beach near Cudillero?



The Mountains

The Picos de Europa in the Cantabrian **mountain range** have some of the highest and most spectacular mountains in Spain. The highest is the Torrecerredo **peak** at 2648m. The most important ranges are the Parque Natural de Redes in the east, the Urbiñas range south of Oviedo in the centre of Asturias, and Somiedo in the west. The mountains also have **tourist resorts** where people go **climbing**, **walking** and **skiing**.



Bulnes



Apple tree

In the **fertile valleys** you can find **herds** of **cattle**. There are small **farms** that grows **crops**, such as **maize** and **beans**. Beans are use to make a typical Asturian dish called fabada. There are also a lot of **apple trees** which people use to make the traditional Asturian drink **cider**.



DID YOU KNOW?

The first salmon of the year caught in the river is called the Campanu. Fishermen sell this salmon to restaurants for a lot of money.

Read and answer the questions.

a What is the source of the rivers in Asturias?

The source of the rivers is the Cantabrian mountains

b What is the name of the famous beach near Cudillero?

Playa de Silencio (Beach of Silence)

