

# The Secrets of Nature| YouTube & Amazon Prime

(NGSS Disciplinary Core Ideas: Multiple, including crosscutting concepts 5, 6 & 7; Energy and Matter: Flows, cycles and conservation, Structure and Function, Stability and Change)

## *Magic of the Mountains*

### Questions

1. The changes that spring brings about on the mountains are often more dramatic than those elsewhere. What changes are you seeing around you now that we are transitioning to spring (if you live in the northern hemisphere)?
2. Why do female capercaillie and deer want to mate with the male who is the best fighter? How does this benefit the offspring?
3. This episode mentioned that foxes, as with all canines, are born deaf and blind and thus completely rely on their parents for their first couple weeks of life. The term for this kind of offspring is *altricial*. The opposite of this are *precocial* offspring that don't rely on their parents at all. Can you think of 3 animals that are altricial and 3 animals that are precocial?
4. Based on what you saw in this episode, do you think the people of the Alps are doing a good job at living in harmony with the animals around them? Why or why not?
5. This episode discussed hunting. What is your opinion of hunting? Do you think there is a right way and a wrong way of doing it? Is there a way that hunting can actually help an animal's population numbers?

### Post-Discussion Questions and Activities

- Imagine you are a plant or an animal that lives in the mountains. Winter is just beginning to change into spring. Write a short story from that plant and/or animal's perspective that describes all of that changes you are witnessing around you. If you feel like it, go ahead and even draw some of these changes.
  - Wrote an amazing story? The Oakland Zoo Education Staff would love to see what you have done! Click [here](#) to fill out the google form and share your amazing work with us.