

Landslide Preparation – Teacher Notes

In the Great Dividing Range snow falls in the high mountains. Avalanches can threaten skiers. What might trigger an avalanche? Rain. Snow melt. Skiers or climbers clambering across the slope destabilising it. People rolling rocks down the slopes.

SAFETY: What would you do if you were in charge of safety at a granite mountain climbing resort?

HINT In the oil and gas industry, personnel are trained to use the "Bow tie" approach:

- 1. Spot the HAZARD.
- 2. Take measures both physical and behavioural to prevent the event that the hazard might have caused (TRAINING).
- 3. MITIGATE effects of the event if it occurs.
- 4. Have a successful outcome

(The third step is necessary because humans can make serious mistakes when distracted).

- Test different rocks for their signature angles of repose
- Monitor slopes and inform people when they may be unstable
- Place notices to make people aware of landslip dangers and what to do if one occurs
- Train climbers to be aware of landslip danger
- Have a landslip plan prepared and accessible
- Regularly train rescue groups
- Keep up to date with the latest information
- Take out personal insurance