Probe: Topographic Maps

Mrs. Cruz’ class was comparing the maps of different parks. Some of the maps were topographic maps that showed the elevations of the different hills, valleys, and mountains. Mrs. Cruz told them that when the contour lines were close together, it meant that the elevation changed quickly.

Serena couldn’t find any contour lines on the topographic map for Galveston State Park, right next to the ocean, and Mrs. Cruz’s class discussed it.

Jada said that the map couldn’t be a topographic map.

Leif thought that the park must be too flat to have any changes in elevation.

George felt that there weren’t any lines because the elevation was too low.

Tanya said that the park must have cliffs which changed elevation too quickly to show up as lines on the map.

Which person do you most agree with? Why?

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