




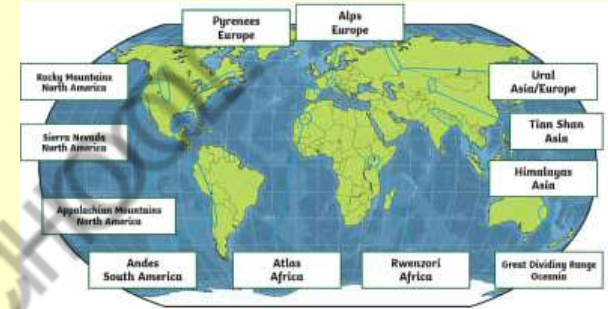


Mountains



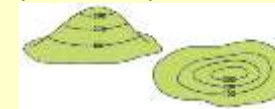
Key Vocabulary	
Altitude	The height of a thing above earth or above sea level.
Elevation	The height to which something rises or is raised, or its height above sea level or ground level.
Hill 	A raised area of land smaller than a mountain.
Mountain 	A land mass with great height and steep sides that is higher than a hill.
Mountaineer	A person who climbs mountains for sport.
Peak	The top part of a mountain that rises to a point, or such a mountain itself.
Plateau 	a high, level area of land.
Ben Nevis	Highest mountain in the UK in Scotland (1345m).
Mount Everest 	The world's highest mountain, on the border between Nepal and Tibet (8848m high).
Steep	Having a sharp slope or slant.
Terrain	Land or ground, or the natural characteristics of its surface.
Ridge 	A long, narrow, raised section at the top of something.
Topography	The shape of the earth's surface across an area or region.
Four-figure reference grid	Used to locate a particular grid square on a map.
Contours	The outline of a figure or surface.

Mountain locations around the world

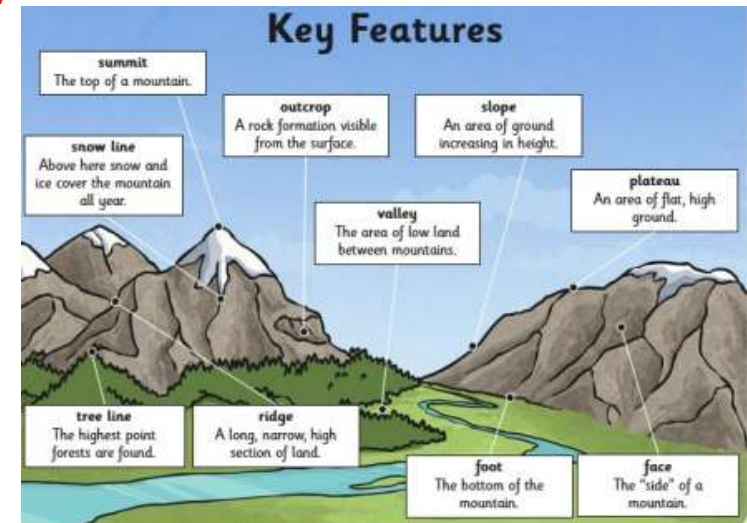


What are contour lines?

These lines on a map join land that is at the same height. They are usually marked in 5m or 10m intervals. The closer the lines are together, the steeper the slope will be.



Key features of mountains.



Mountains

What are some of the dangers of being in the mountains?

- Avalanches or landslides (a huge mass of snow or land which moves quickly down a slope, destroying everything in their path).



- Altitude sickness (the higher up the mountain, the thinner the air. People have to take more breaths to breathe which can lead to dizziness, being short of breath and feeling tired).
- Lower temperatures in the mountains lead to hypothermia and frost bite.
- Wild animals (wolves, brown bears, cougars).



- Poorer access to medical facilities/schools
- Poor weather can lead people to be stranded or traffic accidents.

How are mountains formed?

There are different types of mountains which are formed in different ways.



Fold mountains – are formed by tectonic plates collide and rocks are pushed upwards.



Fault-block mountains – cracks in the earth's surface open up, some chunks of rock are pushed up, some down.



Volcanic mountains – These are formed around volcanoes and made of layers of ash and cooled lava.



Dome mountains – these are formed when magma (inside the earth's crust) is forced upwards but does not flow out of the earth's crust.



Plateau mountains - Materials taken away through erosion (wearing away of the earth's surface). This leaves deep valleys or gorges next to high cliffs.