

Year 4 Mountains Knowledge Organiser

Key Vocabulary	
altitude	The height above sea level.
avalanche	A large amount of snow that quickly moves down a mountain or slope.
crust	The outermost layer of the earth.
gorges	A narrow valley with steep walls, found between hills or mountains.
hypothermia	A serious condition when the body gets too cold and can't warm itself up.
lava	Hot, liquid rock that flows from a volcano.
magma	Hot, liquid rock located deep below the earth's surface.
summit	The highest point of a mountain.
tectonic plate	Pieces of the earth's crust connected together.

Mountains

- Mountains are a natural part of the landscape with steep slopes.
- They rise above 300m.
- They have a **summit** of at least 600m.
- Some mountains are found in groups called a mountain range but some mountains can be on their own.
- Not all mountains are single **summits**.
- Mount Everest is the highest mountain in the world – 8848m.



The Alps

Location

The Alps are a major mountain range in Europe, spanning across eight countries: France, Switzerland, Italy, Monaco, Liechtenstein, Austria, Germany, and Slovenia.

Geography


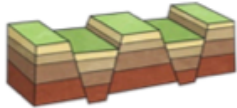








The Alps are known for their rugged terrain and high peaks. The climate in the Alps varies with altitude.

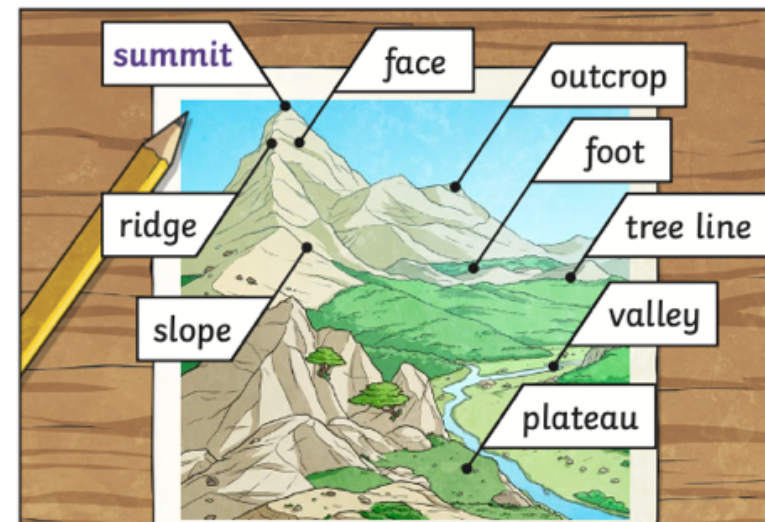
- The Alps were formed millions of years ago due to the collision of tectonic plates.
- Glaciers and erosion have shaped the landscape over time.



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How Are Mountains Made?

Fold mountains	Fault-block mountains	Volcanic mountains	Dome mountains	Plateau mountains
Tectonic plates collide and rock is pushed up.	Cracks in the earth's surface open up, some chunks of rock are pushed up, some down.	Formed around volcanoes and made of layers of ash and cooled lava .	Formed when magma is forced upwards but doesn't ever flow out of the crust .	Materials taken away through erosion leave deep valleys or gorges next to high cliffs.
				
				

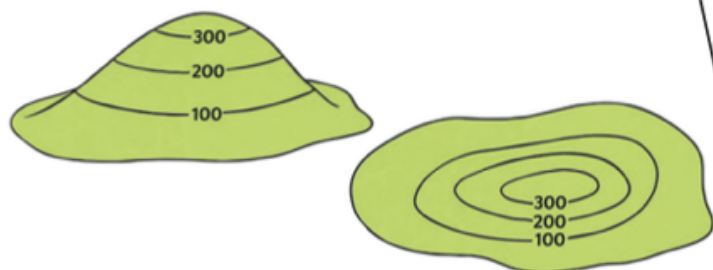


Why Do People Visit Mountains?

- The view
- Keeping fit
- The challenge
- Skiing
- Climbing
- Photography



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.

Risks and Dangers of Mountains

- Low temperature = **hypothermia**
- Bad weather = power cuts/road accidents
- **Avalanches**/landslides
- Altitude sickness
- Wild animals
- Poor access