

Year 3/4 Unit 4 Knowledge Organiser Geography: Mountains and Hills

Vocabulary		Some well-known mountains	
mountain	A rise that is over 600 metres. The sides are steep and the top is pointed.	Mount Everest	Mount Everest is the highest mountain above sea level. It is on the border of Nepal and China and is part of the Himalayan mountain range. Edmund Hilary and Tenzing Norgay reached its summit in 1953.
hill	A hill is under 600 metres with less steep sides and a more rounded summit than a mountain.	K2	K2 is on the border of Pakistan and China. It is considered to be much harder to climb than Mount Everest.
altitude	Altitude is how high something is compared to sea level. The higher the altitude, the colder it gets.	Mauna Kea	Mauna Kea is a dormant volcano on the island of Hawaii. 60% of its height is below sea level, making it technically the highest mountain in the world.
sea level	the surface of the sea	Mount Kilimanjaro	Africa's highest mountain. Located in the country of Tanzania, it is a dormant volcano. It is the largest free-standing mountain in the world.
base camp	a camp at the bottom of a mountain where climbers get used to high altitude before beginning an ascent	Ben Nevis	Found in Scotland, Ben Nevis is the highest mountain in the United Kingdom.
peak	the highest point of a mountain	Yr Wyddfa (pronounced Uhr With-Va)	In 2022, the national park authority in Wales announced that they would refer to the mountain by its Welsh name Yr Wyddfa, not Snowdon.
summit	another name for a peak	<p>How do mountain form?</p> <p>Most mountain ranges are formed by plate tectonics. The Earth's crust is made up of large plates (a bit like gigantic jigsaw pieces) that move around.</p> <p>When two plates collide, they cause the Earth's crust to fold. Over a very long time, they force rock upward and this can cause mountains to form.</p> <p>Volcanic activity and erosion (when land is worn away by wind or water for example) can also form mountains.</p>	
range	a mountain can join up with another mountain to form a range, a bit like a chain.		
oxygen	the air we need in order to breathe		
crust	the outer layer of planet Earth		

Mountains and tourism

Mountains are popular places to visit. People like to visit mountain areas for a variety of reasons e.g. as a personal challenge; for the view; to see wildlife; to take part in winter sports such as skiing and snow boarding.

Mountain tourism can provide jobs for local people. The money tourists spend can improve local communities (for example, it can help to build schools and health centres). Tourism can, however, contribute to rubbish and plastic pollution and the wearing away of mountain paths.