

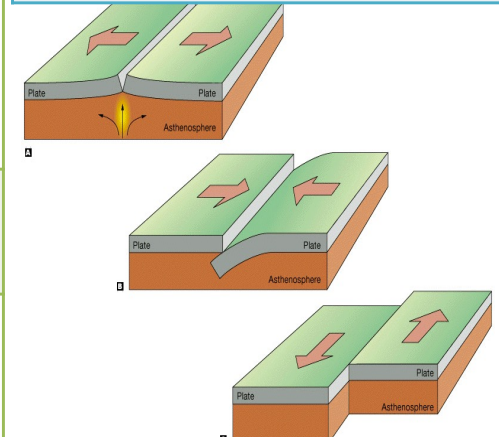
Word	Definition
peak	The top of a mountain.
summit	The highest point of a mountain.
base	The bottom of a mountain where it meets flat ground.
sea-level	The height of the sea where it meets the land.
plateau	A large, flat, high area.
glacier	A large amount of ice that moves slowly.
precipice	A very steep rock face or cliff, especially a tall one.
crust	The outer layer of the Earth.
core	The centre of the Earth.
mantle	The layer of the Earth underneath the crust.
tectonic plate	A section of the Earth's crust.
magma	Hot, melted rock inside a volcano.
altitude	Height above sea level.
biomes	natural areas on Earth that have the same climate, landscape, plants and animals.
erosion	The process in which water and wind gradually wear away rock and soil.
lava	Hot, melted rock outside volcano.

Climate	
Climate describes the weather conditions of a place over a period of time. Mountains can have differing climates. This is because the climate at high altitudes is different to the weather conditions in low areas. Generally, the higher the altitude, the colder and windier the weather.	
Mountain peaks are extremely windy because there is nothing of a similar height to block strong winds or trap warm air. At the top of a mountain, the weather is cold all year round. There is less oxygen at higher altitudes and above 8,000m there is not enough oxygen in the air for humans and most animals to survive. This is called the death zone.	
Major mountain ranges:	
United Kingdom	
Ben Nevis	Located in Scotland , this is the tallest mountain in the United Kingdom and it is so tall it has snow on top all year round! Nicknamed 'The Ben', its height sits at 1,344 metres tall.
Rest of the world	
The Rocky Mountains	Located in Canada and the USA , this mountain range is 4,800km in length and its highest point (Mount Elbert) is 4,401m high.

Biomes

There are many different biomes across mountainous areas. At the base of a mountain there is often flat grassland or savannah. On the lower slopes, there are temperate forests made up of deciduous trees. Higher up, there is taiga forest made from mainly evergreen trees. At about 3,000m above sea-level, the landscape changes to alpine tundra. The highest mountains have no plants at the top, just frozen ice and snow.

Mountain animals have adapted to move around easily on the slopes. They need to be agile with a good sense of balance. Plants also develop to protect themselves.



Tectonic Plate movement