

Key words:

Alpine climate - is the average weather (**climate**) for regions above the tree line

Altitude - a measurement of distance, going up.

Ascent - a climb or walk to the summit of a mountain or hill.

Mountain - a mountain is a landform that is higher and steeper than a hill.

Mountain range - a group of mountains that form a chain or cluster.

Plateau - a raised area of land that is flat on top.

Slope - the slanted side of a mountain.

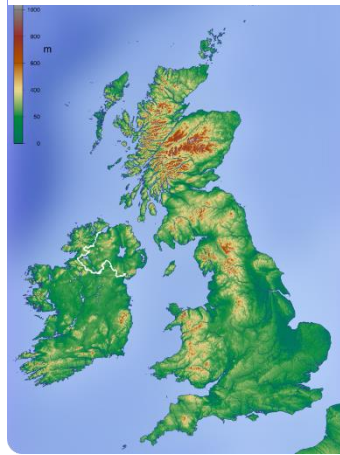
Summit - the highest point on a mountain.

Tectonic plates - large pieces of rock that make up the Earth's surface.

Tourism - travelling to another area for fun.

Valley - low ground in between mountains.

Upland areas in the UK.



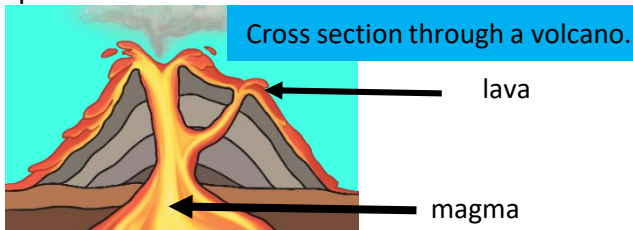
There are 5 main types of mountains:



There are **five types of mountains**:

- **Fold** - The Himalayas are fold mountains.
- **Block** - The Sierra Nevada mountains in California, USA are fault-block mountains.
- **Dome** - Bear Butte in South Dakota, USA is an example of a dome mountain.
- **Volcanic** - Mount Fuji in Japan is a volcanic mountain.
- **Plateau** - The Columbia Plateau in the Northwest USA is an example of this type of mountain.

Mountains are formed when huge areas of land hit each other. The surface of the earth is made up of lots of different sections called tectonic plates. Mountains can be formed in different ways: when these plates collide or when magma can get from the centre of the earth up to the surface.



Some **famous mountain ranges** around the world are:

- The Himalayas, Asia
- The Rocky Mountains, North America
- The Andes, South America
- The Ural Mountains, Europe
- The Alps, Europe

Risks to humans who live in mountainous areas:

- Low temperatures causing hypothermia
- Bad weather leaving you stranded or causing road accidents
- Bad weather causing power cuts
- Avalanches or landslides
- Altitude sickness
- Wild animals
- Poorer access to medical facilities, schools, etc.



Why do people visit mountain areas?

The view Keeping fit The challenge
To raise money for charity
Skiing wildlife spotting climbing
Taking photographs



Global distribution of mountains