



Geography – Mountains and Weather



Year 4
Spring Term

Key Learning

Mountains A mountain is defined as a physical geographical feature with a large piece of the earth's surface rising at least 600 metres from the level surrounding it. It has a small summit area (peak).

Highest mountain in the world: Mount Everest 8849m (Nepal/Tibet) in the Himalayan mountain range

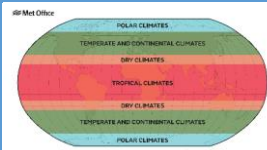


Highest mountain in UK – Ben Nevis 1345m (Scotland) in the Grampian mountain range.

Highest Mountain in Western Europe – Mont Blanc 4808m (France) in the Alps mountain range.



We will be comparing the geographical features, climate zones and living conditions of these three different areas.



Large areas of the Earth have the same sort of climate are known as climate zones. The four major climate zones are temperate, desert, polar and tropical.

Weather and Climate

Different places around the world have different weather and climates. Weather is the temperature and precipitation **from day to day**. In contrast, climate is the average temperatures and precipitation **over a much longer time** period like 100 years. Temperature is how hot or cold it is and is measured in degrees (°) centigrade or degrees (°) Fahrenheit by a thermometer. Precipitation is the collective word for all the different ways that water can fall from the sky, such as rain, snow, hail and sleet, and is measured in mm, cm or inches by a rain gauge.



Key Vocabulary

summit	The top of a mountain.
foot	The bottom of a mountain
treeline	The highest point forests are found
snowline	Above here snow and ice cover the mountain all year
legend/key	Symbols used for geographical features on a map
thermometer	An instrument which measures temperature
rain gauge	An instrument which measures rainfall
anemometer	An instrument which measures wind speed and direction
climate zone	An area that has its own distinct climate, type of vegetation and wildlife
polar climate	A place where the temperature is usually below freezing, icy, and covered with snow most of the time
temperate climate	A mild area, which means they are comfortable to live in because they get enough rain, but not too much, and temperatures are not too high or too low.
tropical climate	These regions have high temperatures and rainfall all year round
geothermal energy	comes from the heat inside the Earth. It can be used to produce electricity, to heat homes and buildings, and to provide hot water.