

Geography Year 4 Spring — Mountains and Rivers

Key knowledge to know and use

The water cycle describes how water evaporates from the surface of the earth, rises into the atmosphere, cools and condenses into rain or snow in clouds, and falls again to the surface as rain, sleet or snow.

Rivers start on high ground and flow downwards to the sea. They have the power to erode and shape the landscape over time.

There are three sections in a river. They are the upper course, the middle course and the lower course. Rivers increase in size as they transport water from their source to the mouth.

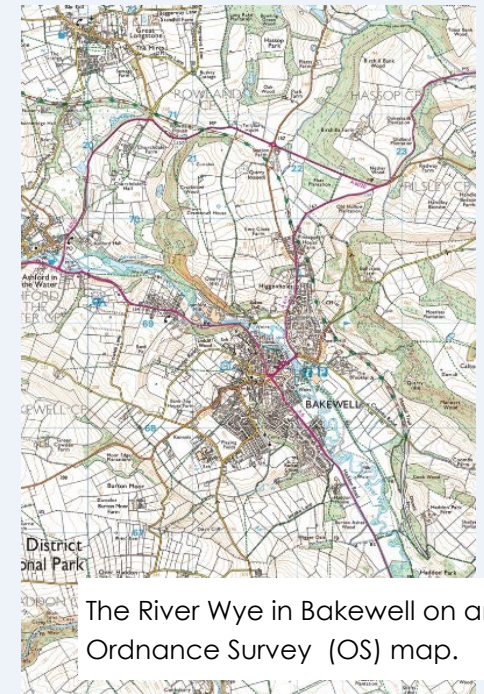
A mountain is a geological landform that rises above the surrounding land. It is generally distinguished by steep slopes, a summit, and considerable height. Typically, a mountain will rise at least 300m above the surrounding area.

There are three main types of mountains: fold mountains, fault-block mountains, and volcanic mountains. They get their names from how they were formed

There are mountains and mountain ranges in the ocean. Many islands are actually the tops of mountains.



Mount Everest is Earth's highest mountain at an altitude of 8848m and it is located in a mountain range called the Himalayas.



The River Wye in Bakewell on an Ordnance Survey (OS) map.

Key vocabulary to remember and use in your learning

Word	Definition
erosion	The process of wearing away the soil, rocks or land by water or wind
deposition	Particles lifted by the water are placed elsewhere, as the speed of the water slows
source	The source of a river or stream is the starting point of the river. It may be a lake, a marsh, a spring or a glacier.
mouth	This is the end of the river where it flows into another river, a lake or the sea.
mountain range	A series of connected or almost connected mountains arranged in a line.
summit	The highest part of a hill or mountain.
valley	A depression or ditch between hills or mountains, often formed by a stream.
altitude	Height measured above sea level.