



Rivers and Mountains

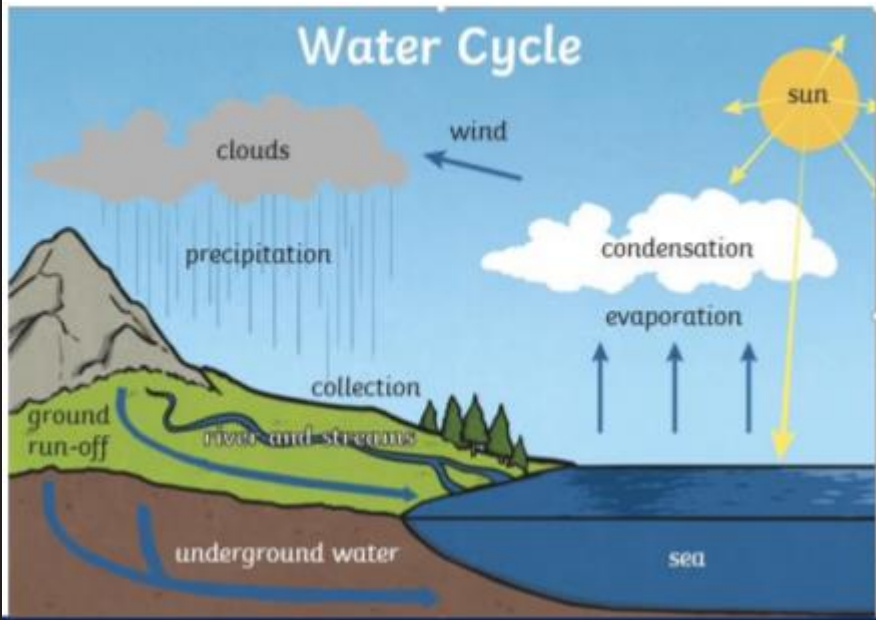
The Water Cycle

Evaporation- heat from the sun causes water to evaporate from the earth. It collects in the sky to form clouds.

Condensation- As water vapour in the clouds cools down it becomes water again.

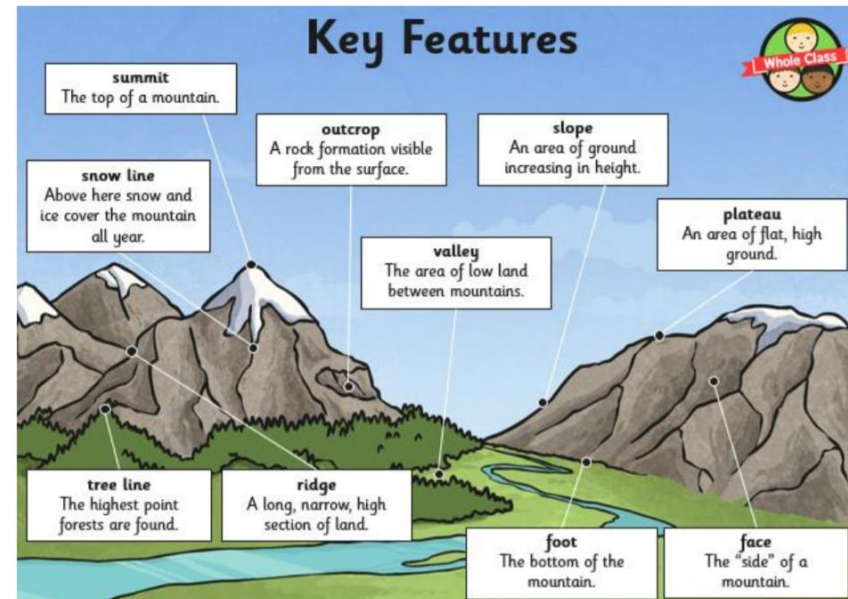
Precipitation- Water falls from the sky in the form of rain, snow, hail or sleet.

Collection- Oceans and lakes collect water that has fallen. Water evaporates and the cycle continues.



Mountains

Mountains are a land form that rises high above the surrounding terrain in a limited area. Mountains cover one fifth of the earth's surface and occur in 75% of the world's countries. The largest range of mountains is in the Atlantic Ocean. Some of the highest mountains are at the bottom of the sea. Hawaii is at the top of a volcanic mountain in the Pacific Ocean.



Fun Fact

A river runs alongside our school.

It is called the River Arun.

Key Vocabulary	
Mountain	Part of the landscape with steep slopes that rise over 300m.
River	A large natural stream of water flowing in a channel to the sea, a lake or another river.
The Water Cycle	The journey waters takes as it moves from the land to the sky and back again.
Evaporation	The process of water being heated to become a gas.
Condensation	The process where gas changes to a liquid as it cools.
Precipitation	Water that falls from clouds in the forms of rain, snow, sleet or hail.
Run-off	Precipitation runs off the surface of the land into rivers, ponds, lakes and streams.
Contours	Lines that show high and low areas of land.
Famous Rivers and Mountains	
Amazon River	The Amazon River is the second longest river in the world. It is 6 miles wide at its widest point.
Mount Everest	Mount Everest is the highest mountain in the world. It is in the Himalayas, on the border of Nepal and China, and is 8848 metres high.
Mount Kilimanjaro	Kilimanjaro is the highest mountain in Africa. It is a volcanic mountain that is 5895 metres high.
River Thames	The River Thames is 346km long making it the longest river in England.
River Nile	The River Nile is the longest river in the world at 6650km long.

Rivers

Rivers begin at their source. In higher ground such as mountains where melted snow and rainwater collects and forms tiny streams. When one stream meets another, it forms a smaller stream called a tributary. Many tributaries form a river. The majority of rivers flow to make an ocean, sea or large lake. The end of a river is called the mouth.

Features of a River

The diagram illustrates the features of a river system. It shows a river originating from a source in a mountainous region (Higher Land). The river flows through a floodplain, forming meanders. Tributaries join the main river. The river eventually reaches a delta where it meets a lake or ocean (Lower Land). A vertical arrow labeled 'RIVER SYSTEM' indicates the downward flow of water from higher to lower land.