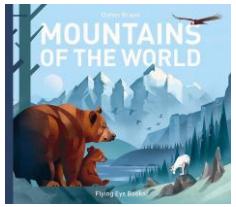
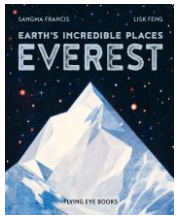
Year 6 – Peaks, plates and people – How do humans and mountain environments interact?

Subject Specific Vocabulary

Sea level	The level of the sea's surface. This is used as a reference to measure the height of geographical features such as mountains.
Mountain range	A mountain range is a group or chain of mountains that are close together.
tectonic plates	The Earth's outer layer is made up of large, moving pieces called plates.
altitude	the height of something above a specific reference point, usually sea level
hypothermia	Is a condition when your body temperature drops dangerously low
glacier	a very large, thick mass of ice that stays frozen all year round.
slope	The side of the mountain
Sherpas	The Himalayan locals who earn a living as guides for those climbing the mountains
summit/peak	The summit is the highest point of a mountain.
volcano	A volcano is a mountain with a hole at the top from which lava and gases erupt.
Himalayas	Is a mountain range in Asia
avalanche	A large amount of snow that moves quickly down a slope



Recommended reads

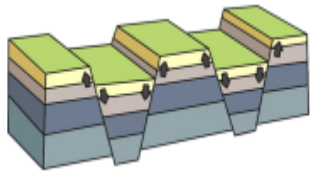


Mountain types

Fold mountains - are formed when two plates move together. This bends the rock.



Fault-block mountains are formed when two of the Earth's plates move together and the middle section of rock is pushed upwards



Dome mountains are formed when the pressure of magma causes the Earth's crust to bulge.



Mountain ranges

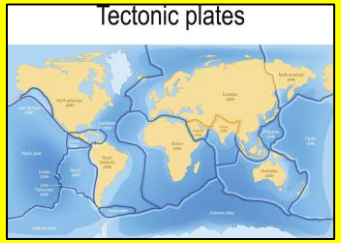


Sticky Knowledge

Generally mountains are higher than 600m; if they are less, they are called hills.

Mountains are formed when two of the earth's plates collide and land is pushed upwards or folded.

Many mountain ranges are located along tectonic plate boundaries.



Mount Everest is the highest mountain in the world

People visit Everest for the following reasons: adventure and challenge, cultural reasons, scientific research

Mountains have their own climates.
The higher the mountain, the more extreme the climate.

Conditions on mountains are harsh, so it can difficult for living things to thrive



At very high altitudes there is very little oxygen so it is harder to breathe.