Geography Knowledge Organiser Y5/6 – Mountains and Rivers

Key Vocabulary	
Mountain	A part of the landscape with steep slopes that rises over 300m.
Range	A series of mountains that form a chain joined by high ground.
Volcano	An opening in the Earth's crust that allows molten rock from beneath the crust to reach the surface.
Tectonic plates	Large pieces of rock that make up the earth's surface.
Climate	The weather conditions in an area in general.
Environmental	The natural world and the impact of human activity on its condition.
Tourism	People travelling for enjoyment.
River	A flow of fresh water across the land into a lake, sea or ocean.
Pollution	A substance in the environment that has harmful or poisonous effects.
Hydrologic cycle	The way in which water moves around the world.
Condensation	The process of a gas cooling and changing into a liquid.
Transpiration	The process where plants absorb water through the roots and then give off water
	vapour through their leaves.
Evaporation	The process of a liquid heating and changing into a gas.
Precipitation	When water or snow falls from a cloud.
Source	The start of a river.
Mouth	The end of a river, where it enters a lake, sea or ocean.
Meander	A large bend in a river.
Tributary	A small river which flows into a larger river.
Delta	An area of low land where a river splits and spreads into several branches before
	entering the sea.











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How mountains are formed:



Fold mountains—Fold mountains occur when tectonic plates collide. The rock of the Earth's surface is pushed up to create mountains.

Fault-block moun-

tains—When cracks in the Earth's surface open up, large chucks of rock can be pushed up while



others are pushed down. This creates mountains with a long slope on one side, and a sharp drop on the other.



Volcanic mountains— Volcanic mountains are formed around volcanoes. Volcanic mountains are made of layers of ash and cooled lava.

Dome mountains—Dome mountains are smooth and round-looking. They are formed when magma is forced up between the crust



and the mantle, but doesn't ever flow out. The magma makes the land bubble up like a balloon.

Plateau mountains-Plateau mountains are different



from the other mountain types. They haven't formed because of rock or magma being pushed up. They form because of materials being taken away through erosion, which has left deep valleys or gorges next to high cliffs.





Inner Core

Outer Core Mantle



• To research a famous mountain

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- To find out about mountain climates
- To investigate a mountain environment
- To investigate mountains as tourist destinations
- To explain how mountains are formed or why volcanoes erupt
- To find out the positive and negative effects of tourism in mountain environments
- To explain the water cycle in relation to rivers
- To find out how rivers erode, transport and deposit materials
- To identify and research an important aspect of rivers
- To find out about the causes of river pollution and its effect on the environment
- To investigate a river in detail including the effects on the environment and landscape