

Mountains



Mountains

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Chapter 1: Where Are the Mountains?



Have you ever seen a **mountain**? A mountain is a very tall part of the land that rises high above the ground. Mountains are part of the

Earth's **landscape**, which means all the natural things we see around us, like hills, rivers, forests, and **valleys**. A valley is a low area of land between hills or mountains. We can find mountains in many places around the world.

To help us learn where mountains are, we can use a **map**. Maps show us different places, such as countries, cities and natural features. We can

also use a **compass** to help us find our way. A compass shows us the four main directions: **North, East, South and West**. These



directions help us describe where places are.

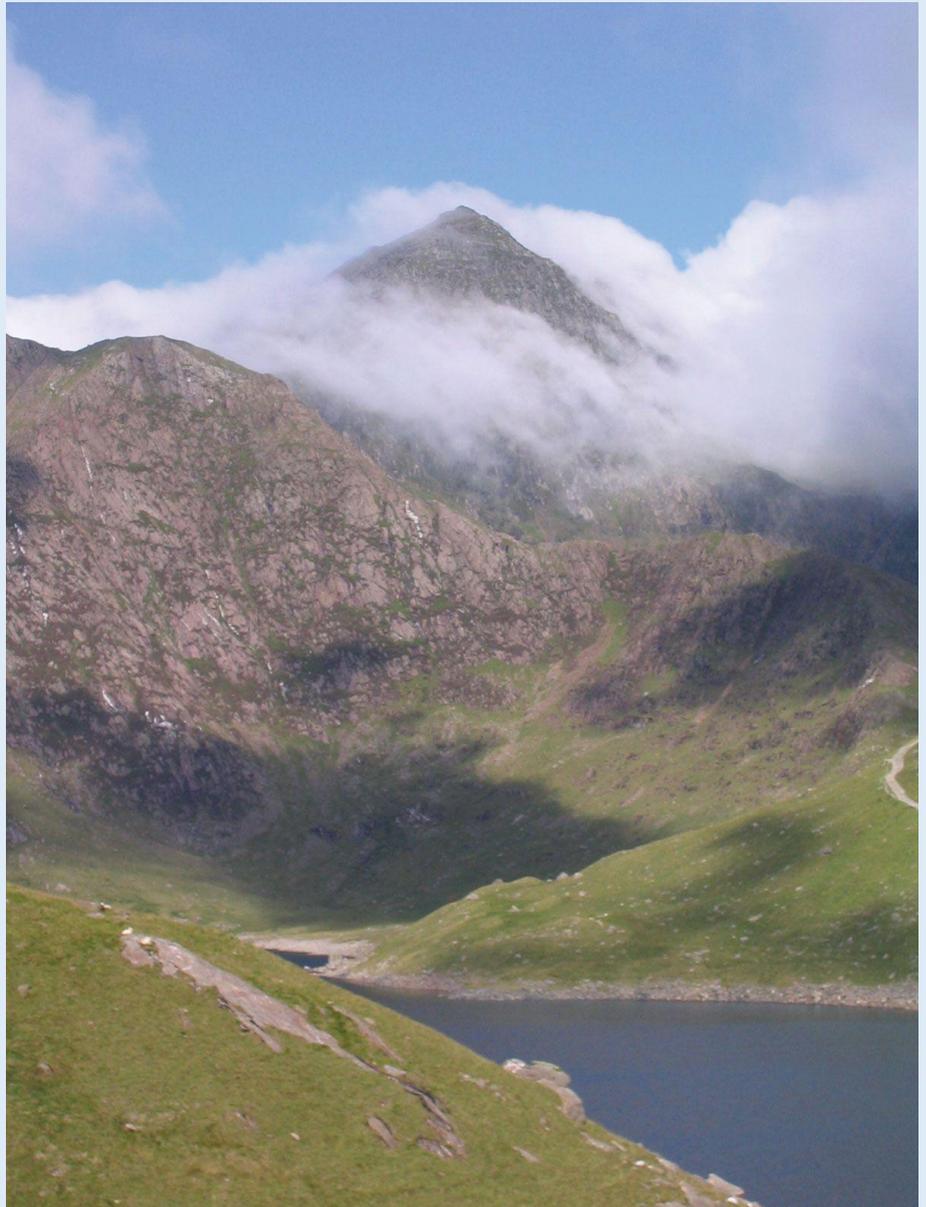
Mountains are found on different **continents**. A continent is a very large area of land,

like Europe or Africa. The world has seven continents. On each continent, there are different mountains and mountain ranges. Some mountains are extremely tall, and some are smaller, like the ones we find in the United Kingdom. Learning

about continents helps us understand how mountains are spread across the world.

In this chapter, we are going to learn about a famous mountain close to where we live: **Mount Snowdon**.

Mount Snowdon is the tallest mountain in Wales and one of the tallest in the



whole of the United Kingdom. When we look at a map of the UK, we can find Wales and then look carefully to spot Snowdon. We can use our compass directions to describe where Snowdon is. For example, Snowdon is to the **west** of

England and to the **north** of some parts of Wales.

Mountains like Snowdon look very different from the places where many of us live. When we **compare** Liverpool to Snowdon, we can see many **differences**. Liverpool is a busy city with lots of buildings, roads and shops. Snowdon has more **physical features**, such as rocky paths, steep slopes and lakes. There are fewer **human features** there because fewer people live on the mountains.



People visit mountains for many reasons. Some people enjoy walking or climbing. Others love the views from the top, where you can see the landscape for miles and miles. As we explore this unit, we will learn more about what mountains are like, what it is like to live near them, and how mountains in the UK are similar to and different from mountains in other parts of the world.

In the next chapter, we will look more closely at what mountains look like and how their weather can change as you climb higher.

Chapter 2: What Are Mountains Like?

Mountains are some of the most exciting places on Earth. When we look at a **mountain**, we can see that it is much taller than the land around it. Mountains have steep sides, rocky paths and pointy tops called **peaks**. These are all **physical features**, which means they are natural things that were not made by people. Mountains are an important part of the world's **landscape**.



If we look carefully at pictures of different mountains, we can spot many interesting features. We might see rocks, cliffs,

streams and even **valleys**. A valley is a low area between mountains. Some mountains are covered in green grass or forests, while others look bare and rocky. When we **compare** different mountains, we see that they can look similar in some ways but have **differences** too.

The **weather** on a mountain can be very different from the weather at the bottom. As you climb higher, the air gets colder. This is why we often see snow at the top of a mountain, even when it isn't snowing at the bottom. Sometimes the weather changes very quickly in the mountains.

It might be sunny one moment and cloudy the next. This colder, changing weather is a



big difference between mountain areas and places like cities.

Many people enjoy visiting mountains. Some people like walking along the paths and exploring the beautiful landscape. Others love climbing to the top to see the view from the peak. From up high, you can look down and see forests, lakes,

rivers and even little villages far below. The view helps us understand how all the physical features fit together.

But it is important to stay safe in the mountains.

Because the weather can be cold and windy,





people must wear the right **clothing**, such as warm coats, hats and strong boots. The paths can be steep, so visitors must take care where they walk. Some parts of the mountain might be

slippery or rocky, and explorers need to be prepared. These safety steps help people enjoy the mountains safely.

When we think about all these things—what we can see, what the weather is like, and why people visit—we begin to understand what mountains are really like. They are beautiful, interesting places filled with special physical features. In the next chapter, we will explore what it is like to **live** in a mountain area and learn about the human and physical features of mountain villages.

Chapter 3: Living in the Mountains



Have you ever wondered what it would be like to live in a village high up in the **mountains**? Mountain villages look very different from busy cities like Liverpool. When we study mountain areas, we can see both **physical features**—natural things like mountains, rivers and **valleys**—and **human features**, which are things people have built, such as houses, roads

and shops. These features help us understand what life is like for people who live there.



Let's look at a real place near **Mount Snowdon**. Snowdon is surrounded by small towns and

villages. One of these is **Betws-y-Coed**, a village in Snowdonia. If we look at ground-level photographs, we might see tall trees, steep hills, small houses and narrow roads. If we look at aerial photographs from above, we can see how the whole **landscape** fits together—mountains rising high, rivers flowing through the **valley**, and houses nestled between the trees. Using both types of photographs helps us spot **similarities and differences** between mountain villages and the places where we live.



People who live in mountain areas often have different daily lives from people who live in cities. Because the roads can be narrow or winding, travelling around can take longer. The weather can be colder, especially in winter, and sometimes snow makes it harder to get to school or the shops. Many homes are built using stone to keep them warm, which is a **human feature** that suits the mountain environment.

Even though mountain settlements are smaller, they still have important places like cafés, small

shops, village halls and sometimes train stations. These are human features that help people live their everyday lives. There may also be farms nearby, with sheep or other animals grazing on the hillsides. This shows us how people use the land and the physical features around them.

Mountain villages also have many interesting **physical features** to explore. Streams and rivers run through the **valleys**, forests grow on the lower slopes, and tall peaks rise above the village roofs. The landscape is peaceful and full of nature. Tourists often visit to enjoy walking, exploring and taking photographs of the beautiful

scenery. This means that mountain villages sometimes have hotels or visitor



centres as part of their human features.

When we **compare** mountain villages like Betws-y-Coed with where we live, we notice many **differences**. Our roads may be wider, we may have more buildings, and we might be closer to shops, parks or schools. But there are **similarities** too. Both places have homes, people, transport and important buildings. Learning about these similarities and differences helps us understand how people live in different environments.

Mountain settlements are special places where human features and physical features come together. In the next chapter, we will travel further away and explore mountains in different parts of the world—and find out how they compare to Snowdon.

Chapter 4: Mountains Around the World

By now, we have learned a lot about **Mount Snowdon** and what life is like in a mountain village such as Betws-y-Coed. But mountains are not only found in the United Kingdom. There are mountains on every **continent** in the world, and they can look very different from the ones we know. Today, we are going to explore mountains in another part of the world and **compare** them with Snowdon.



One famous mountain range is the **Himalayas**. The Himalayas are far away from the UK, in a place called the **Indus Valley**, which is in a non-European country. When we look at an atlas or a globe, we can find the Himalayas by looking across different continents. These mountains are much taller than Snowdon. In fact, the Himalayan mountains include some of the tallest mountains in the world. This is one of the biggest **differences** between the two places.

Just like Snowdon, the Himalayas have many **physical features** such as steep peaks, deep **valleys**, and rocky landscapes. However, the weather in the Himalayas can be much colder and harsher, especially high up on the mountains. Snow and ice cover the peaks for most of the year. When we **compare** Snowdon and the Himalayas, we can see both **similarities**—like mountains, valleys, rocks—and **differences**, such as height and climate.

People also live in mountain areas in the Himalayas, just like they do near Snowdon. These mountain communities may have small houses, narrow roads, and animals such as yaks that help them travel and carry goods. These are **human features** that show how people adapt to the **landscape** around them. In Snowdonia, people might work in tourism or farming, while in the Himalayas people may travel long distances by foot or using animals. These differences help us understand how people live in different environments.



Transport is another important feature we can compare. In Snowdon, visitors might arrive by

car, bus or train. In the Himalayas, it may be harder to build roads because the mountains are so high and steep. People may travel using winding paths or mountain trails. These **differences** show how the **landscape** affects travel.



Even though Snowdon and the Himalayas are far apart, they share some **similarities** too. Both places have beautiful

scenery, tall mountains and wildlife adapted to mountain life. Both have villages with people who live close to nature and use the land around them. When we look carefully at the **physical**

features and **human features**, we can understand how mountain areas across the world are connected.

By learning about mountains in other countries, we can see how special different places are. We also learn how people live differently depending on the land and weather around them. In the next chapter, we will look back at everything we have learned about mountains and think about what makes mountain landscapes so interesting.

Chapter 5: What Have We Learned About Mountains?

We have explored many exciting ideas in our **Living in the Mountains** unit. Now it is time to look back at everything we have learned.

Mountains are an important part of Earth's **landscape**, and people all over the world live

near them, climb them and explore them.

First, we learned what a **mountain** is and where mountains can be found.

With the help



of a **map** and a **compass**, we located **Mount Snowdon**, the tallest mountain in Wales. Using the directions **North, East, South and West**, we



described where Snowdon is in the United Kingdom. We also learned that mountains are found on different **continents** across the world.

Next, we explored what mountains look like. We discovered that mountains have special **physical features** such as steep cliffs, rocky paths, peaks and deep **valleys**. We also learned that mountain **weather** is often colder at the top and can change quickly. When we **compare** mountains to cities and towns, we can spot many

differences, including the shape of the land, the weather and the types of activities people can do.



Then we looked closely at what it is like to **live** in a mountain area. We studied villages near Snowdon, such as **Betws-y-Coed**, and used ground and aerial photographs to find **human features** like houses, roads and bridges. We also saw **physical features** like rivers, forests and hills. These features help us understand how people live and work in a mountain environment.

After that, we explored mountains **around the world**. We used atlases and globes to find the **Himalayas** in the Indus Valley. We learned that these mountains are much taller and colder than Snowdon. By comparing the two places, we found **similarities**, such as steep slopes and valleys, and **differences**, such as the height of the mountains, the weather and the types of transport people use. This helped us understand how people adapt to the **landscape** they live in.

Now we can see how everything fits together. Mountains have many physical features that shape the land. People build homes, roads and farms that fit with the mountain environment, creating human features. By comparing different places, we can see how mountains in the UK and mountains around the world share similarities but also have important differences.

We have learned so much about mountains—where they are, what they look like, how people live there and how they compare to mountain

ranges across the world. Mountains are amazing places full of beauty and adventure. As you continue learning about geography, you will discover even more about how landscapes shape the world and the people who live in it.

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