

Geography • Climate: The Alps

Key Learning Question: What is the geography of the Alps?



Crucial Knowledge

- The Alps are a mountain range in Europe and cover areas in the following 8 countries: Switzerland, France, Austria, Italy, Germany, Slovenia, Monaco and Liechtenstein
- Mount Blanc is the highest mountain in the Alps.
- The Alps are the third longest mountain range in Europe.
- The Alps were formed 34 – 23 million years ago when the African and European tectonic plates hit.
- There are other mountain ranges across other continents such as the Rockies, the Andes and the Himalayas.
- Farming and forestry are large parts of the mountain economies along with tourism.
- The UK and the Alps both have temperate climates. The Alps has more snowfall due to their high altitude.
- The average temperatures on the valley floor range between – 5°C to 4°C in winter to 15°C to 24°C in summer.
- Different sports and holiday activities are popular in the Alps, depending on the season.

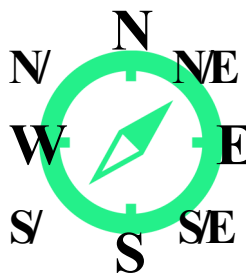


Key Vocabulary

- Topographical: describes the physical features of land.
- Altitude: the height of something in relation to sea level. The top of a mountain is at an high altitude.
- Alpine: something relating to high mountains.
- Tree line: (on a mountain) the line or altitude above which no trees grow.
- Rural: relating to a countryside rather than a town or city.
- Climate: Weather in a location over a long period of time
- Temperate: A region characterized by mild temperatures
- Tectonic plates: Giant slabs of rock forming the Earth's surface

Big Ideas:

- Locations and Mapping • The Human World • The Physical World • Human Impact • Physical Processes



Eight Point Compass:

- N/E = Northeast
- S/E = Southeast
- S/W = Southwest
- N/W = Northwest



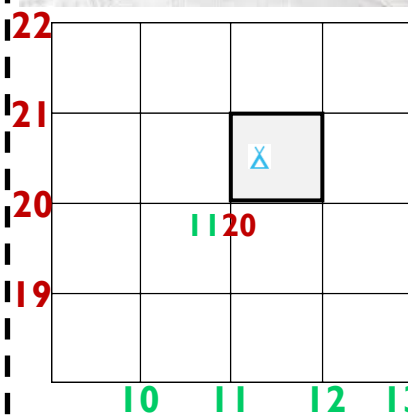
Location Maps



Europe



The Alps: France, Switzerland, Italy



4 Figure Grid Reference:

- The square's grid reference of 1120.
- The first two numbers are the horizontal value.
- The second two numbers are the vertical value.

We Are Building Our Knowledge From

- Rivers : The Amazon (Y3)

This will help when we learn about

- Volcanoes :The Galapagos (Y6)