

Volcanoes

A volcano is a landform (usually but not always a mountain) where molten rock erupts through the surface of the planet.

There are around 1510 active volcanoes in the world.

Volcanoes are like giant safety valves which release pressure as it builds up inside the earth.

Earthquakes

An earthquake is a sudden movement of a tectonic plate, causing the ground to shake. A large earthquake can topple buildings and cause death and destruction.

When an earthquake happens under the sea, it can cause a tsunami.

Research these at the library or online:

The Pacific Ring of Fire, the volcano at Pompeii, Popocatepetl, Valdivia Earthquake.

Vocabulary

Tectonic Plates – pieces of the outer layer of the Earth's crust that are constantly moving.

Plate Boundary – the edges of the tectonic plates.

Eruption – an explosion of steam and lava from a volcano.

Lava – hot molten or semi-fluid rock erupted from a volcano

Volcanic Ash – very fine fragments of rock and minerals that are ejected from a volcano.

Active – a volcano that has had at least one eruption in the last 10 000 years.

Dormant – a volcano which is not erupting, but which is expected to erupt again.

Extinct – a volcano which is not expected to erupt again.

Structure of The Earth

Core – extremely hot. Inner core is solid. Outer core is molten.

Mantle – semi-molten. Very hot.

Crust – continental and oceanic solid rock broken into tectonic plates.

The tectonic plates on the surface of the earth move about, sometimes causing volcanoes and earthquakes.



