

Knowledge organiser – Volcanoes and Earthquakes

What will we be learning?

- The structure of the Earth.
- Features of a volcano.
- Famous volcanoes and earthquakes.
- Effects of volcanoes and earthquakes.
- Preparing for an earthquake.
- What it's like living near a volcano.

Key facts

Famous volcanoes:

Soufrière (St Lucia, North America), Eyjafjallajökull (Iceland, Europe), Popocatepetl (Mexico, North America), Vesuvius (Italy, Europe), St Helens (USA, North America), Etna (Italy, Europe).

Key knowledge

The Earth is made up of layers. The top layer, the Earth's crust, consists of large slabs of rocks, called plates. The plates move as the hot mantle flows beneath them. The movement of the plates causes earthquakes and leads to volcanoes erupting.

Earthquakes are measured on the Richter scale. They can cause devastating damage to buildings, roads and land. When volcanoes erupt they spew out lava. This is a very hot liquid that destroy anything in its path.



Plate tectonics	Volcanoes and earthquakes	Earthquake scales
Great African Rift Valley Haiti Iceland Japan Mauna Loa Pacific Ring of Fire	crater disaster dormant eruption magma tsunami	epicentre plate boundary

Glossary

dormant: a dormant volcano is a volcano, like Kilimanjaro, that has not erupted for a long time

epicentre: where an earthquake starts and is felt most strongly

tsunami: a huge, powerful wave caused by an earthquake