

Volcanoes | Lower Key Stage 2 |

Important Questions

1	What is a volcano?
2	What causes a volcanic eruption?
3	What happens when a volcano erupts?
4	How do volcanoes affect people, plants and animals?
5	What are the key features of a volcano?
6	Can you name and locate famous volcanos around the world using a map?

Famous Volcanoes

1	Mount Vesuvius (Italy)
2	Mount Fuji (Japan)
3	Mount St. Helens (USA)
4	Krakatau (Indonesia)
5	Mauna Loa (Hawaii)
6	Cotopaxi (Ecuador)

Key Knowledge

What is a volcano?

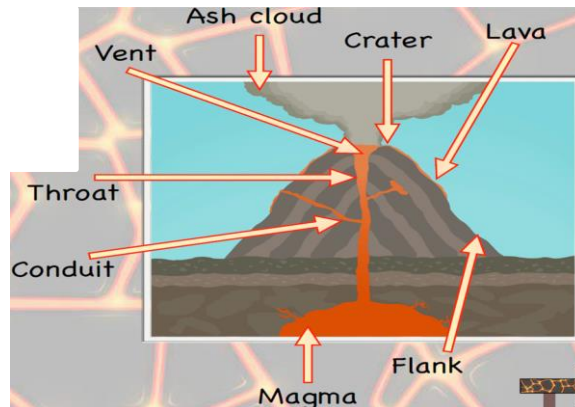
- A volcano is a mountain or hill that has a vent through which lava, rocks and gas erupt.

What causes a volcanic eruption?

- If there is too much magma in the volcano chamber (this causes extreme pressure) it will erupt. The pressure needs to escape.

What happens when volcanoes erupt?

- Magma rises through cracks in the volcano.
- Pressure builds up inside the volcano.
- The magma explodes out of the volcano.
- When the lava cools it forms new crust/rock and the volcano becomes bigger.



Vocabulary

1	Lava	Molten (melted) rock that erupts from a volcano and solidifies as it cools.
2	Magma	Molten (melted) rock that is beneath the Earth's surface.
3	Vent	An opening at the Earth's surface.
4	Crater	The steep-sided mouth of a volcano.
5	Ash cloud	A cloud of fine particles of rock formed by volcanic explosions.
6	Conduit	An underground tunnel in the volcano that magma travels through.
7	Magma chamber	A large underground pool of magma.
8	Dormant	A dormant volcano is an active volcano that is not erupting, but could erupt again.
9	Extinct	An extinct volcano has not had an eruption for at least 10,000 years and is not expected to erupt again.
10	Eruption	An explosion of harmful substances such as ash, gas, lava and rocks from a volcano.
11	Active	A volcano that has had at least one eruption during the past 10,000 years.
12	Throat	The entrance of a volcano that releases lava.