

Exploring an Active Volcano

A research investigation

While there is evidence of volcanic activity in the past, a lot of volcanoes are active today. They're bubbling with lava, spewing ash and triggering earthquakes as you sit in class. With this activity you'll become a mini-expert on an active volcano and then present your findings to the rest of the class.

As you learn about the many different kinds of volcanoes active today, you'll be better prepared to understand the volcanoes that once erupted in Tucson.

Just remember the geologist's mantra:

"The present is the key to the past." —Sir Archibald Geikie

Getting down to business

- " Pick your volcano from the list at left [see sidebar].

- " Use the posted websites at:

<http://www.geo.arizona.edu/Tucson/students/activevolcanoes.html>

to find the following information on your volcano:

- Location

- Volcano type (shield, strato, etc.)

- Eruption and lava type(s)

- Past and or recent activity

- Past and future hazards

- Rock types formed

- " Use the worksheet as your guide to

Rock types

3. Geographic setting: where is your volcano? Is it on an island or in a mountain range? What does it look like? Is it tall or flat? How big is it? Include as many details as you can find. Draw a picture of your volcano.

4. Describe and draw a picture of how your volcano erupts.

5. What volcano type is your volcano [shield, strato, etc.]? Refer to your responses above and the volcano chart from Activity 1.

6. When did your volcano last erupt? What evidence is used: photos, eyewitness accounts, historical documents, rock deposits?

7. Was the eruption hazardous to people? What happened? Describe the destruction.

8. If the volcano erupts again, what are the possible hazards? Does it pose a threat now?

9. What are 2 cool facts about your volcano?



presenting your research

Class presentations

As you listen to your classmates report on their volcano, fill out the following information for each presentation. A greater familiarity with volcanoes from a variety of settings around the world will make it easier for you to recognize different volcanic rocks and to understand the eruptions that formed them.

group 1

Students in group:

Volcano name

Location

Volcano and eruption type

Recent activity and hazards

group 2

Students in group:

Volcano name

Location

Volcano and eruption type

Recent activity and hazards

group 3

Students in group:

Volcano name

Location

Volcano and eruption type

Recent activity and hazards

group 4

Students in group:

Volcano name

Location

Volcano and eruption type

Recent activity and hazards

group 5

Students in group:

Volcano name

Location

Volcano and eruption type

Recent activity and hazards

group 6

Students in group:

Volcano name

Location

Volcano and eruption type

Recent activity and hazards

group 7

Students in group:

Volcano name

Location

Volcano and eruption type

Students in group:

Volcano name

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