

Important Topic Vocabulary

hemisphere	One half of the Earth.
volcano	A conical shaped hill or mountain that contains a crater/vent.
eruption	An explosion of steam or lava from a volcano.
crater	The mouth of a volcano which surrounds the vent.
magma	Hot fluid material below or within the Earth's crust from which lava is formed.
earthquake	A sudden release of energy which causes the ground shake to shake.
tectonic plate	Huge slabs of moving rock that make up the Earth's outer shell.
fault	Fractures in the Earth's crust where rocks have slid past each other.
aftershock	A shaking event that follows an earthquake.

What you should already know

- The Equator is an imaginary line that runs around the middle of the earth. The North Pole is on the top most northerly point on the globe. The South Pole is on the bottom most southerly point on the globe.
- The world is divided into seven continents: Europe, Asia, Africa, South America, North America, Antarctica and Australasia.
- The five oceans of the world are: Atlantic, Pacific, Indian, Arctic and Southern.
- A physical feature is something that has been formed by nature. Some examples of physical features are mountains, lakes, islands, valleys, rivers, cliffs, forests and beaches.



The half above the red line is the Northern Hemisphere.

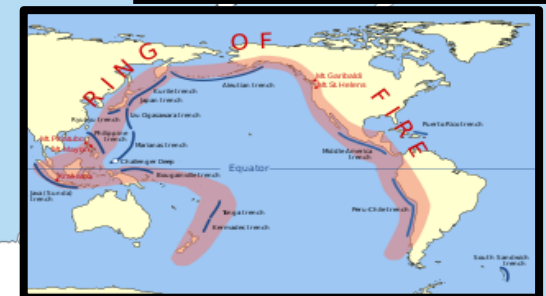
The United Kingdom is in the Northern Hemisphere, as is Italy, USA, Iceland and Mexico.

Countries in the Southern Hemisphere include Chile, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and Peru.

The half below the red line is the Southern Hemisphere.

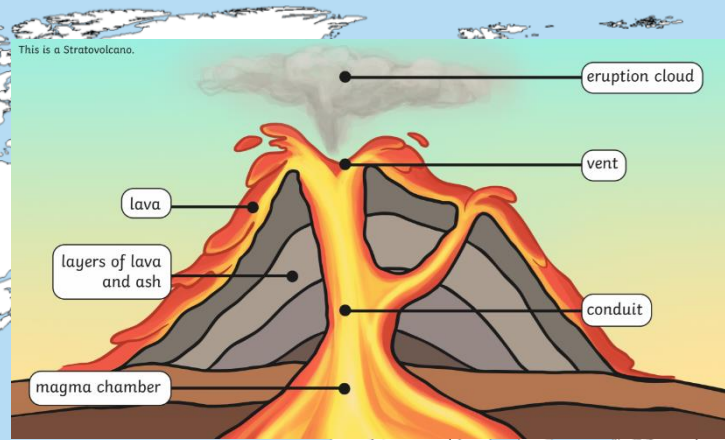
Did you know...?

There is a region surrounding the Pacific Ocean called the Ring of Fire. It is called this because it is a horseshoe shape and many volcanic eruptions and earthquakes happen there!



What are volcanoes?

A volcano is a conical shaped hill or mountain that contains a crater or vent. This is a physical feature. A volcanic eruption is an explosion of steam or lava from a volcano.



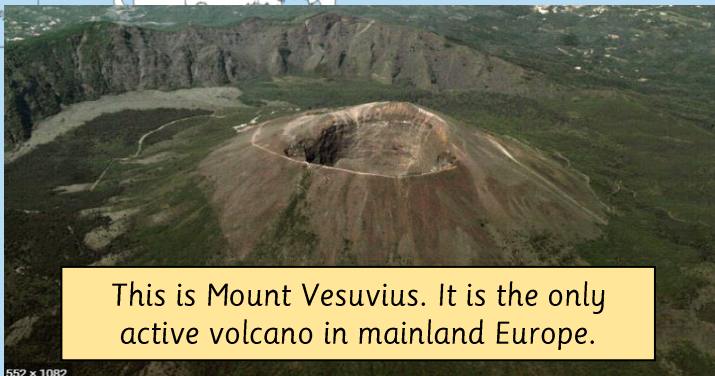
Types of volcano

A volcano can be active, dormant or extinct.

Active - A volcano that has erupted in the last 10 000 years.

Dormant - A dormant volcano is an **active** volcano that has not erupted in the past 10 000 years but it could erupt again.

Extinct - The volcano has not had an eruption for at least 10 000 years and will not erupt again.



This is Mount Vesuvius. It is the only active volcano in mainland Europe.

What causes an earthquake?

The Earth's outer shell is made up of huge slabs of moving rock called tectonic plates. An earthquake is usually caused when these rocks suddenly crack. These cracks are called faults, and usually happen when the tectonic plates slide past each other.

Aftershock is a shaking event that follows an earthquake. Sometimes, this can be more damaging than the original earthquake!



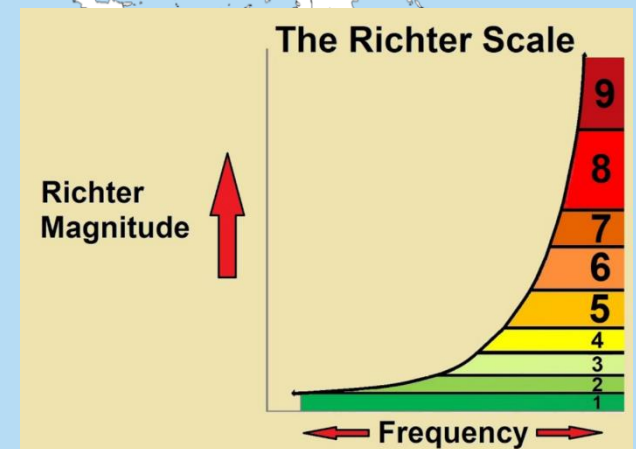
This is Mount Vesuvius erupting in 2020.

The Richter Scale

The Richter Scale is a scale used to measure the strength of earthquakes. It takes into account the magnitude (size) and frequency of the earthquakes.

Seismic Activity

Anything that is caused by or related to an earthquake might be referred to as being seismic.



Websites: Volcanoes

Volcanoes: <https://www.funkidslive.com/learn/top-10-facts/top-10-facts-about-volcanoes/>

Volcanoes: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z849q6f/articles/zd9cxyc>

Websites: Earthquakes

Earthquakes: <https://www.funkidslive.com/learn/top-10-facts/top-10-facts-about-earthquakes/>

Earthquakes: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z849q6f/articles/zj89t39>