

Finn's Volcanic Investigation: A Geography Report

Learning objective: To describe and understand the key features and processes of volcanoes using geographical vocabulary.

Use this scaffold to structure your report. Refer back to the geographical terms in the word bank to ensure your writing is precise and descriptive.

As Finn the dolphin explores the deep ocean floor, he discovers that beneath the surface of the Earth, powerful forces are constantly at work.

Word bank: tectonic plates · magma chamber · vent · eruption · lava flow · dormant · extinct · consequently · furthermore · subsequently · geothermal energy

1. Introduction: Define what a volcano is and explain where they are typically located. Start with: 'A volcano is a fascinating geological feature that forms when...' (2 marks)

2. The Anatomy of a Volcano: Describe the internal structure. Start with: 'Deep beneath the Earth's crust, magma builds up in a chamber until...' (3 marks)

3. The Eruption Process: Explain how a volcano erupts. Use the word 'pressure' in your explanation. Start with: 'When the pressure becomes too intense, the volcano enters an eruptive phase, releasing...' (3 marks)

4. Active, Dormant, or Extinct? Compare and contrast these three states of volcanic activity. Start with: 'Geographers categorise volcanoes based on their activity levels. An active volcano is one that... whereas a dormant volcano...' (4 marks)

5. Environmental Impact: Explain why some people choose to live near volcanoes despite the risks. Start with: 'Although volcanoes can be dangerous, the surrounding land is often fertile because...' (3 marks)

6. Conclusion: Summarise the importance of monitoring volcanoes. Start with: 'In conclusion, studying volcanoes is vital for global safety because...' (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Greater Depth Challenge: 1. Explain why volcanoes are frequently found along the boundaries of tectonic plates. 2. Justify your answer: If you were a town planner, what safety measures would you implement for a community living near a dormant volcano? 3. What might happen to the local climate if a massive volcanic eruption occurred? 4. Compare and contrast the damage caused by fast-flowing lava compared to volcanic ash clouds. 5. Research and explain the concept of the 'Ring of Fire'. 6. Create a persuasive leaflet for tourists visiting a volcanic region, balancing the beauty of the landscape with essential safety warnings.