

Fiery Mountains: A Guide to Volcanoes

Learning objective: To write a non-chronological report explaining how volcanoes are formed and their impact on the Earth's surface.

Use this writing frame to structure your report. Ensure you include a clear introduction, detailed paragraphs about volcanic structure, and a concluding summary of their global impact.

Deep beneath the Earth's crust, immense heat and pressure create powerful forces that occasionally burst through to the surface in the form of volcanoes.

Word bank: tectonic plates · molten magma · eruption · consequently · furthermore · subsequently · dormant · volcanic ash · in addition · fissure

1. Introduction: What is a volcano and where are they generally located? Start by saying: A volcano is a mountain that opens downwards to a pool of molten rock below the surface of the earth... (2 marks)

2. The Science of Eruptions: How do tectonic plates interact to cause an eruption? Start by explaining: Volcanoes are often formed where tectonic plates meet, causing... (3 marks)

3. Types of Volcanoes: Describe the difference between active, dormant, and extinct volcanoes. Start by writing: Not all volcanoes behave in the same way; some are active, meaning... (3 marks)

4. The Impact on Landscapes: How does volcanic activity change the surrounding environment? Start by stating: When a volcano erupts, the landscape is permanently altered as... (2 marks)

5. Conclusion: Summarise why volcanoes are important to our planet's history. Start by writing: In conclusion, while volcanoes can be destructive, they also play a vital role in... (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Research a famous historical eruption and add a 'Case Study' box to your report, detailing the date, location, and the immediate effects on the local geography.