Finn’s Volcanic Explorer Challenge

Learning objective: To identify the key parts of a volcano and understand how they are formed.

Read each question carefully and use your knowledge of volcanoes to answer in full sentences. Finn the dolphin is waiting to check your geography skills!

Finn the dolphin is mapping the ocean floor and has discovered that some islands are actually the tops of giant underwater volcanoes! A volcano is an opening in the Earth's crust that allows molten rock, gases, and ash to escape to the surface.

Word bank: magma · lava · crater · vent · eruption · tectonic plates

1. What is the difference between magma and lava? (2 marks)

2. Describe the function of the 'vent' in a volcano. (2 marks)

3. What happens at the top of a volcano during a volcanic eruption? (2 marks)

4. Explain why many volcanoes are found where tectonic plates meet. (3 marks)

5. If a scientist was buying equipment to monitor a volcano, and a thermal sensor cost £45.50 and a gas monitor cost £32.25, how much would they spend in total? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a cross-section of a volcano. Label the magma chamber, the main vent, the crater, and the lava flowing down the side.

Extension challenge: Research a famous volcano, such as Mount Vesuvius or Mount Fuji. Write three interesting facts about it to share with your class.