Year 3 Geography Assessment: Violent Volcanoes

Learning objective: To describe and understand the key aspects of volcanoes, including their structure and location.

Read each question carefully. Write your answers in the spaces provided. If you need more space, use the back of the paper. Good luck!

Finn the dolphin has been exploring the ocean floor near island chains. He has discovered that many islands were formed by volcanoes. A volcano is an opening in the Earth's crust that allows hot, molten rock to escape from deep underground. When this rock is trapped inside the Earth, it is called magma. Once it bursts through to the surface, we call it lava.

Word bank: Magma · Lava · Crater · Vent · Tectonic Plates · Eruption · Ash

1. Using information from the passage, what is the difference between 'magma' and 'lava'? (2 marks)

2. Name two things that might come out of a volcano during an eruption. (2 marks)

3. Nova the owl has been studying the Earth. Can you name the large, moving pieces of the Earth’s crust that often meet where volcanoes are found? (2 marks)

4. Look at the word bank. Where is the 'crater' located on a volcano and what does it look like? (3 marks)

5. Explain why people might choose to live near a volcano, even though they can be dangerous. Think about the soil or the landscape. (4 marks)

6. Imagine you are a scientist like Bea the honeybee. Write a short diary entry (4–6 sentences) describing what you see, hear, and smell when you visit a volcano that has just started to erupt. Use descriptive language. (7 marks)

7. What is the name of the 'ring' of volcanoes that circles the Pacific Ocean? (5 marks)

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

Extension challenge: Total: /25