

Knowledge Organiser - Year 3—Geography: Volcanoes

Key Question — How do volcanoes affect the lives of people who live near them?



Key Concepts

Landscape	All the important features of the area that you can see, which can constantly change over time.
Change	To make something or someone different
Hazard	A source of danger

Facts about Etna and Vesuvius

Etna	Vesuvius
Located on east coast of the island of Sicily in the Mediterranean.	Located in Italy, on the gulf of Naples, 9 miles from Naples.
One of the most active volcanoes in the world with nearly half of its eruptions happening in the last 100 years.	Most famous eruption happened in 79AD in Pompeii when it erupted continuously for a day, killing approximately 2000 people and burying the town of Herculaneum.
Over 500,000 years old	17,000 years old
Largest active volcano in Europe	Only volcano on mainland Europe to erupt during the last century.
Etna is 3,329 metres tall.	Vesuvius 1277 metres tall.
Became a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2017. World Heritage sites are protected sites which can increase tourism.	The archaeological areas of Pompeii and Herculaneum left after the eruption in 79AD became a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1997.
Eruptions take place due to African tectonic plate is being pushed under the Eurasian plate.	

Three types of Volcano

Active	A volcano that erupts regularly
Dormant	A volcano that has not erupted in a very long time, but could again in the future.
Extinct	A volcano that has not erupted in thousands of years, and doesn't look like it will erupt again.

Where in the world is it?



Mount Etna



Mount Vesuvius

Stromboli

A small island off the north coast of Sicily. It is one of the three active volcanoes in Italy (including Etna and Vesuvius) and is 924 metres tall. It is famous for its small but regular eruptions especially during the night which led to its nickname of the 'Lighthouse of the Mediterranean'.

Key Vocabulary

Crater	Bowl shaped area at the top of a volcano vent
Earth's crust	Outermost layer of a planet which is made up of different types of rock.
Magma	Rock that is so hot that it has turned to liquid. Also known as lava.
Ring of fire	Major area in the basin of the Pacific Ocean where many earthquakes and volcanic eruptions occur.
Tectonic Plate	Large plates of rock that make up the foundation of the Earth's crust. They are the cause of volcanic eruptions as they move towards one another.
Vent	Main part of a volcano where magma and gases come through from deep inside the Earth.
Volcano	Opening in the Earth's crust that allows Magma, hot ash and gases to escape. Many volcanoes are mountains or small hills.

Key Places

Pompeii	Was an ancient city near Naples
Mediterranean Sea	Connected to the Atlantic Ocean, it is almost enclosed by land by Southern Europe and North Africa.
Sicily	The largest island in the Mediterranean Sea.

Volcano Diagram

