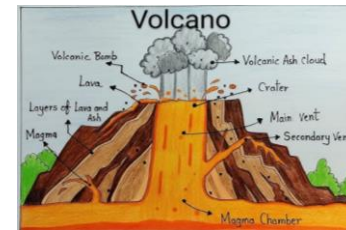
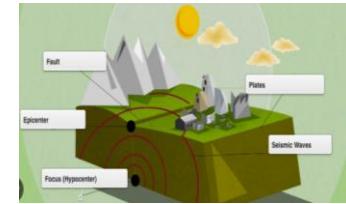


Salesbury Super 6 Knowledge Organiser for Mercury Class (Y4/5)

Learning Focus: **Geography** One World: Volcanoes and Earthquakes **Spring 2 2025**



Lucy Jones

'The Earthquake Lady'

Key Knowledge to Learn

- 1 **Volcanoes** are formed when, deep inside Earth, hot melted rock called **magma** builds up. Pressure increases and the magma **bursts** out as lava, ash and gases, creating an **eruption**.
- 2 **Shield Volcanoes** are wide and flat, with gentle lava flows that create new land but can burn forests; **Composite Volcanoes** are tall and cone-shaped, with explosive eruptions that send ash into the sky, causing landslides and cooling the air; **Cinder Cone Volcanoes** are small and steep, with short eruptions that spread ash, making soil rich; **Caldera Volcanoes** are huge craters formed by massive explosions, changing landscapes and weather.
- 3 The UK has extinct volcanoes that haven't erupted for millions of years: **Arthur's Seat** and **Castle Rock** in Scotland, **Ben Nevis**, **Snowdonia** in Wales and **The Giant's Causeway** in Northern Ireland were all once active volcanoes.
- 4 Volcanoes can destroy homes and farms with lava, ash and landslides. People may move away, but **volcanic soil** helps plants grow, making the land great for **farming**.
- 5 Earthquakes are caused by the earth's **tectonic plates** pushing, pulling or sliding against each other. This movement creates **energy** that shakes the ground. Earthquakes can crack roads, destroy buildings and cause **landslides** or **tsunamis**. They happen quickly but can change the land and significantly affect people's lives.
- 6 Earthquakes come in different types: **Tectonic earthquakes** shake the ground when Earth's plates move; **Volcanic earthquakes** happen near volcanoes, causing eruptions; **Collapse earthquakes** occur when caves fall in; **Tsunami earthquakes** create giant ocean waves, flooding land.

Vocabulary

Tectonic Plates	Giant pieces of the Earth's crust that slowly move and interact with each other. Most volcanoes and earthquakes happen near where these plates meet .
Earthquake	A sudden shaking of the ground caused by the movement of rock beneath the Earth's surface.
Fault	A crack or break in the Earth's crust where rocks move past each other. Earthquakes often happen along faults .
Epicentre	The point on the Earth's surface directly above the place where an earthquake starts (the focus).
Seismic Waves	Vibrations that travel through the Earth carrying the energy released during an earthquake.
Volcano	A mountain or hill with a hole (called a vent) at the top where hot, melted rock (magma), ash and gases can erupt from inside the Earth.
Magma	Hot, melted rock inside the Earth. When magma erupts onto the surface, it is called lava.
Lava	Magma that has erupted from a volcano and flows on the Earth's surface.
Crater	A bowl-shaped depression at the top of a volcano, usually formed by eruptions .

You can find out more by accessing these links:

[School Learning Zone - Volcanoes and Earthquakes](#)

[What are volcanoes? - BBC Bitesize](#)

[Explore volcanoes - BBC Bitesize](#)

[What are earthquakes? - BBC Bitesize](#)

[Explore earthquakes - BBC Bitesize](#)

[Geography | KS1 | KS2 | Earthquakes | BBC Teach](#)