

Volcano Glossary

- Active volcano** – a volcano that has erupted recently and is expected to erupt again.
- Ash and dust** – fine material thrown out by a volcano.
- Core** – the central part of the earth.
- Crater** – a roughly circular opening at the summit of a volcano.
- Crust** – the thin layer of the earth.
- Dormant volcano** – a volcano that has erupted in the last 2,000 years but not recently.
- Earthquake** – a sudden movement, or tremor, of the earth's crust.
- Extinct volcano** – a volcano that is not expected to erupt again.
- Hazard** – a natural danger to people and their property and way of life. Hazards include earthquakes, storms, drought and floods.
- Lava** – molten rock (magma) that usually flows from the crater of an active volcano.
- Magma** – molten rock below the earth's surface.
- Magma chamber** – where molten rock is found deep below the earth's surface.
- Natural hazard** – a great force of nature, such as an earthquake, flood or storm, which is a threat or danger to people and their way of life.
- Plate boundary** – the place where plates meet on the earth's surface and where most of the world's earthquakes occur and volcanoes may be found.
- Plates** – large sections of the earth's crust.
- Richter scale** – a scale used to measure the strength of an earthquake.
- 'Ring of fire'** – A circle of active volcanoes found around the edge of the Pacific Ocean.
- Seismograph** – An instrument used to measure the strength of an earthquake.
- Vent** – an opening in the earth's crust through which material is forced upwards during a volcanic eruption.
- Volcanic bombs** – Large rock fragments thrown out by an erupting volcano.
- Volcano** – a cone-shaped mountain or hill often made up of lava and ash.