

# Geography – Volcanoes and Earthquakes (Year 3)



## Key Vocabulary

**Core** - Centre of the earth.

**Mantle** – The part of the Earth between the crust.

**Crust** - Rocks that form below the Earth's surface.

**Tectonic** - The crust is made up of pieces of rock like a jigsaw puzzle.

**Plates** – The pieces are called plates and they meet at a fault line.

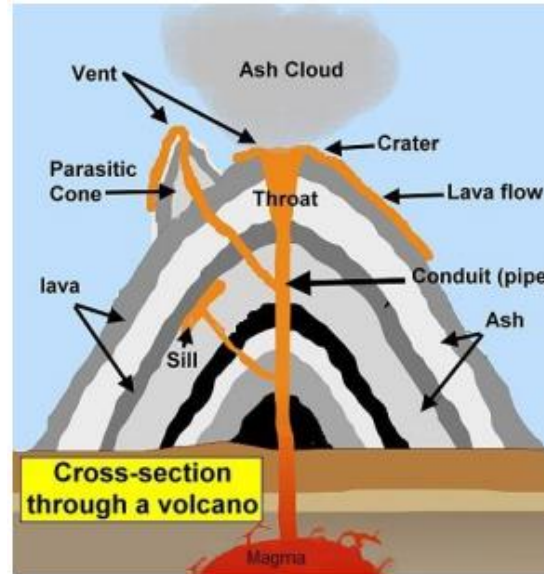
**Richter scale** - Used for measuring the intensity of earthquakes.

**Earthquake** - The sudden and sometimes violent shaking of the Earth's crust.

**Magma** - Hot liquid in the Earth's core.

**Lava** - Hot liquid that comes out of a volcano after it erupts.

**Dormant** - Not active by capable of becoming active later on.



## The impact of volcanoes:

- Volcanoes can change the weather, they can cause: **rain; thunder and lightning**. They can have long-term effects on the climate making the World **cooler**.
- Fast-moving lava can **kill** people and falling ash make it hard for them to **breathe**. They can also die from famine, fires and earthquakes, which can be related to volcanoes.
- People can lose their **possessions** as volcanoes can destroy houses, roads and fields.

## Famous volcanoes

- Largest active volcano - **Mauna Loa, Hawaii**.
- **Mount St Helens** – USA. Erupted in 1980 and is still active.
- **Mount Vesuvius** - Naples, Italy. Last erupted in 1944.
- **Mount Fuji** – Japan. It is actually three separate volcanoes piled one on top of the other with Fuji at the top. Last erupted in 1708.
- **Popocatepetl** – Mexico. Was dormant for 50 years before erupting in 1994.



## Earthquakes

- The tectonic plates which make up the Earth's crust are constantly moving. This movement is so slow that it cannot be felt by those living on Earth.
- An earthquake happens as a result of energy being released in the form of seismic waves after a build up at a plate boundary.