Geography—Year 6—Volcanoes and Earthquakes

Key Knowledge

A **volcano** is an opening in the Earth's crust that allows magma, hot ash and gases to escape. **Volcanoes** can look like mountains or small hills, depending on what type they are.

Magma is molten rock - rock that is so hot it has turned into liquid.

Volcanoes

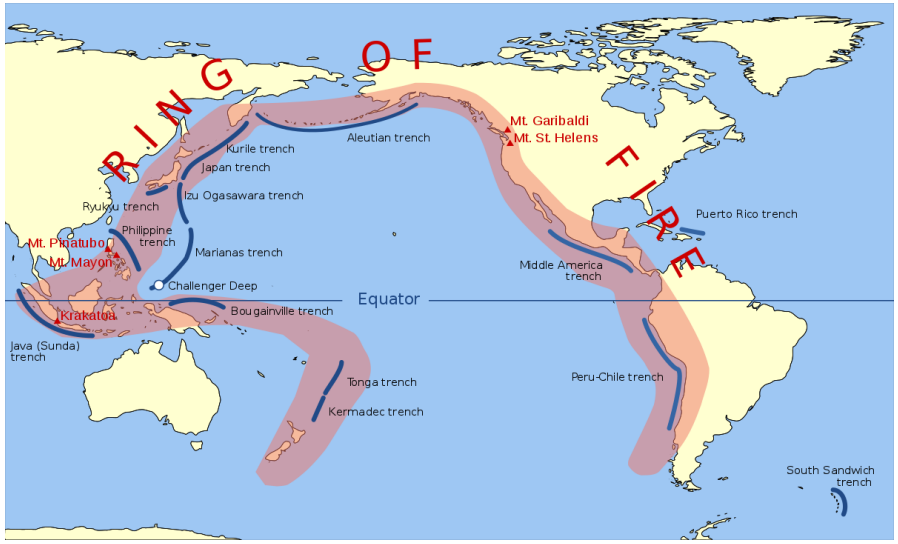
- **composite**: layers of ash and lava . Violent eruptions and longer periods between eruptions.
- **shield**: no layers. Made from lava when the plates move away from each other. Less violent but more frequent.

Active, **dormant** and **extinct** volcanoes.

Ring of Fire – the area encircling the Pacific Ocean where there are many active volcanoes and earthquakes.

Earthquakes are measured using a **seismometer** which measures the ground's movement. The movement is then measured using a **Richter scale**.

Japan, Indonesia and India are some of the countries that are most prone to earthquakes because of where they are in relation to the tectonic plates.



Key Places

Edinburgh Castle – extinct volcano

Ring of Fire – Pacific Ocean

Volcano eruptions – Pompeii, Mount Tambora, Mount Mayan, Iceland, Indonesia (Mount Marapi)

Japan - Earthquake and Tsunami



Edinburgh Castle

Vocabulary

Fault lines
composite
shield
active
dormant
extinct
eruption
crater
throat
lava
main/secondary vents
magma chamber/ reservoir
Mariana Trench
Pacific plate
Tsunami
seismometer
Richter scale
epicentre
vibration
oceanic and continental plates
subduction
landscape
infrastructure