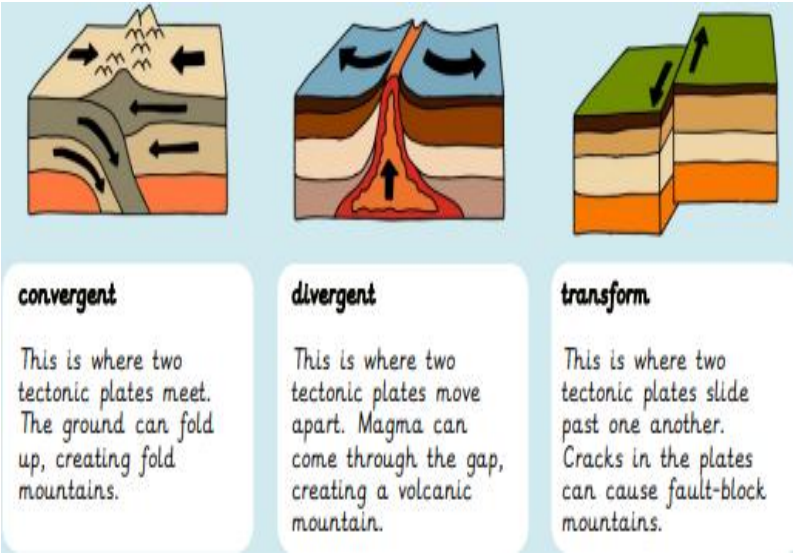
Geography
Year 4 - Autumn

Volcanoes

Learning enquiry question: : Why do people live near volcanoes?



convergent

This is where two tectonic plates meet. The ground can fold up, creating fold mountains.

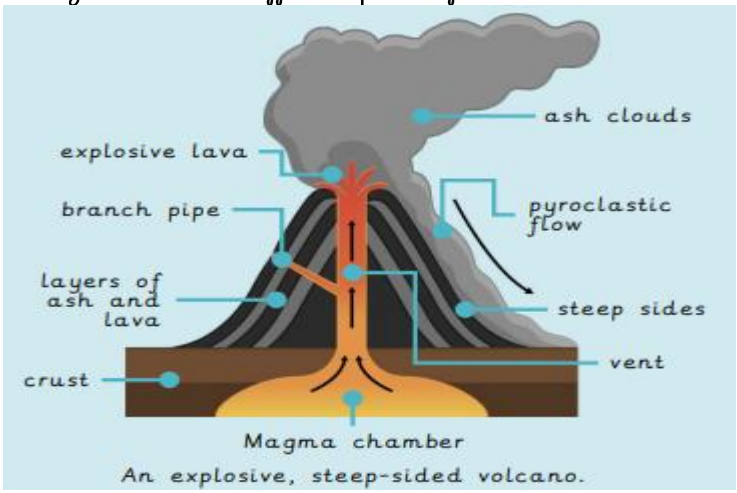
divergent

This is where two tectonic plates move apart. Magma can come through the gap, creating a volcanic mountain.

transform

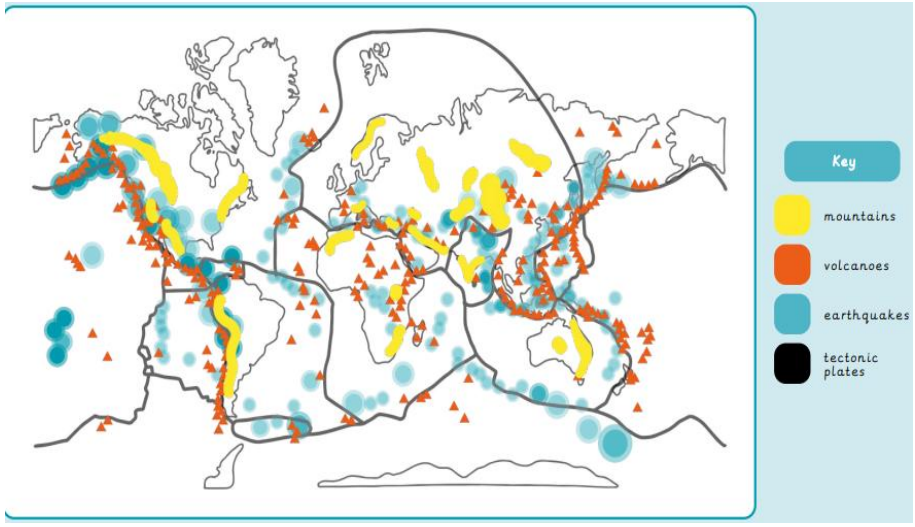
This is where two tectonic plates slide past one another. Cracks in the plates can cause fault-block mountains.

Can you label the different parts of a volcano?



An explosive, steep-sided volcano.

Map of mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes



Why do volcanoes erupt?

1. Giant pieces of the Earth's crust called **tectonic plates** are moving all the time. Sometimes as two tectonic plates move away from each other, magma can rise up through the gap between them.

2. Sometimes eruptions can be caused by tectonic plates moving towards each other too. As the two plates crash together pone of them can be forced downwards into the Earth's interior. The heat and pressure that this creates can cause magma to rise up and erupt.

3. Hot spots inside the Earth can heat magma up so that it becomes less dense and starts to rise up through cracks in the crust.

Vocabulary

Tectonic plates- like giant, interlocking puzzle pieces that make up Earth's hard outer shell

Fault - a large crack in the Earth's crust where giant slabs of rock fracture and slide past one another

Tourism- when people leave their hometowns to travel, explore new places, and have fun

Volcano- an opening, or vent, in the Earth's surface that allows hot, melted rock (called magma), gases, and ash to escape from deep underground. When this hot liquid reaches the surface, it is called lava

Active- An active volcano is one that has erupted recently or is showing signs that it could erupt again soon.

Dormant - A dormant volcano is a "sleeping" volcano. It is not erupting right now, but scientists believe it could wake up and erupt again in the future

Extinct - a volcano that scientists believe will never erupt again. This happens because it has been permanently cut off from its underground supply of magma.