Year 5 - Geography - Earthquakes, mountains and volcanoes.

How are people affected by structure the of our Earth?

Subject specific Vocabulary

core	The central part of the Earth, beneath the mantle.
crust	The Earth's crust is it's outer layer.
dormant	Not active but is capable of becoming active later on.
extinct	The volcano is not expected to erupt again.
fault lines	A long crack in the surface of the Earth. Earthquakes usually occur along fault lines.
magma	Molten rock that is formed in very hot conditions inside the Earth.
mantle	The part of the Earth between the crust and the core
molten	A material such as rock, metal or glass which has been heated to a very high temperature and has become a hot, thick liquid.
peak	The highest point of a mountain, also known as the summit.
range	A range of mountains or hills is a line of them.
tectonic plates	Pieces of land that connect together on the Earth's outer shell. These pieces bump together and move, even though it is only a couple of centimeters a year.
vent	The part of a volcano through which lava and gases erupt.

Sticky Knowledge

An earthquake's strength is called its magnitude and is measured on the Richter scale.

The structure of the Earth Inner core is primarily a solid ball of iron. The outer core is liquid iron and nickel. The mantle is semi-molten rock or magma and the crust is solid rock.

When the magma rises through a volcano's vent this pressure is released as lava and gas.

The Earth's surface is made up of different sections called plates.

Japan has over 100 active volcanoes, more than almost any other country and accounts alone for about 10 % of all active volcanoes in the world.

Almost four-fifths of Japan is covered with mountains. The Japanese Alps run down the centre of the largest island, Honshu. The highest peak and Japan's most famous mountain is Mount Fuji, a cone-shaped volcano considered sacred by many Japanese.

Physical Geography

Volcanoes are made when pressure builds up inside the earth. This affects the earth's crust causing magma to sometimes erupt through it.

Most earthquakes happen where tectonic plates meet. Some of these plates slide past each other, causing friction to build up. While some move towards each other, causing a build up of pressure. When these forces - friction or pressure - are released, they produce a violent jolt that shakes the land: an earthquake.

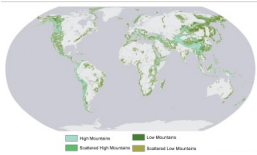
Human Geography

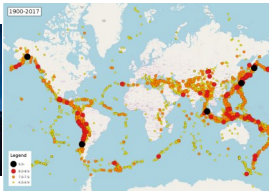
Over 29 million people worldwide live within just 10km of active volcanoes. This is usually because the volcanic rock and ash provide fertile land which results in a higher crop yield for farmer. This means the land around volcanoes is usually used as farmland with a few rural settlements.

IT is estimated that 12% of the world's population live in mountainous areas. The alps are the most densely populated mountain area in the world.

Humans use mountains to graze animals, and grow coniferous forests to harvest wood. Water authorities make reservoirs and pump water to towns and cities.

Maps and Interesting Images





Books linked to the theme