

Geography (Y4) – Iceland: The Land of Fire and Ice A region in a European Country

Prior Knowledge

- Places near each Pole are cold places (Y1, Summer Term)
- Europe is one of the 7 continents and is the continent we live on (Y2, Spring Term)
- Tourists are likely to visit a place because of its human or physical features (Y2, Summer Term)
- Different places have specific cultures which impact the way people live e.g. the aboriginal culture in Australia (Y2, Spring term)
- Tourism is important for a local area (Y3, Spring Term)
- A mountain is formed when tectonic plates meet and some mountains are the result of the Ice Age (Y3, Spring Term)
- The Earth is divided into layers and changes within these layers can impact the landform, such as the Giant's Causeway in Northern Ireland (Y3, Summer Term)
- Flooding is a type of natural disaster and some coasts have flood defences to protect against flooding (Y3, Summer Term)

Key Knowledge

- Iceland is a country located in Europe, which is the same continent as the UK.
- Many people live in Iceland. Icelandic people have their own cultures and traditions which they preserve including their own language and currency.
- Iceland is a popular place in the Northern Hemisphere for tourists to visit mainly due to its location and its physical features.
- The Earth is structured in layers: the inner core, outer core, mantle and crust.
- The Earth's crust is made up of tectonic plates and these move
- Some tectonic plates move away from each other and some tectonic plates move towards each other.
- Iceland is located on a tectonic plate boundary
- A volcano is often formed at a plate boundary
- Volcanoes occur where magma is released through the Earth's crust. Once the magma cools, it hardens to create the shape of the volcano.
- Some volcanoes are composite and some are shield
- When the pressure in the magma chamber gets too high, the lava is released through the vent during a volcanic eruption
- When a volcano erupts, rock, gas and ash are released creating ash clouds which can drift for miles
- A volcanic eruption can affect the landscape of its surrounding area and can also lead to natural disasters which can significantly impact the people who live and work near the volcano
- Grindavik volcano is an active volcano located in the South West of Iceland which has caused recent natural disasters affecting the people of Iceland
- Land near to volcanoes can have an impact on the local economy such as through boosting tourism, supporting the production of geothermal energy, providing nutrient rich soil and geothermal spots

How do volcanoes affect the lives of residents in Iceland?

Flag of Iceland:



Identify

Sacrifice

Forgiveness

Courage

Explore



Key Vocabulary

Plate Boundaries	An area where two or more tectonic plates meet.
Tectonic plates	Giant pieces of the Earth's crust and the upper part of the mantle.
Crust	The outer part of the Earth.
Volcano	An opening in the Earth's crust that allows magma, hot ash and gases to escape.
Composite Volcano	Volcanos with steep sides, formed of many layers of hardened lava. These are located at convergent plate boundaries.
Shield Volcano	Volcanos with gentle slopes covering a larger area. These are located at divergent plate boundaries
Magma	The name given to hot liquid rock inside a volcano
Erupt	When a volcano becomes active, releasing lava, ash and gases.
Natural Disaster	An adverse event initiated by natural processes, such as a sudden change in the earth's crust or climate.
Tourism	When people travel away from home for pleasure.

Map of Europe:

