

ACTIVITY Volcanic Eruptions!

Not all volcanoes are the same size or shape. And they don't stay the same either; they actually grow and change over time. This activity will allow you to build a model volcano and watch how they change as they erupt and new rock is built upon the existing volcanic structure.

SUPPLIES

- 🌿 5 colors of playdough
- 🌿 Dental floss
- 🌿 Paper plate (optional)

PRE-ACTIVITY QUESTIONS

1. What is magma called after it comes to the surface of the earth?

2. What type of rock does lava form when it cools?

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Build a small model volcano using playdough on a paper plate. The volcano should be about 3-4 inches tall and 3-4 inches wide.
2. Pretend your volcano erupted and covered the entire mountain with lava. Create a layer of playdough in a different color to represent the lava and cover your volcano with it.
3. Pretend your volcano had three more eruptions, following the directions in step 2.
4. Using a piece of dental floss, cut your volcano in half. You should be able to see your original volcanic structure and each of the new layers created from the lava. Do you see how over time volcanoes can grow and change in structure?