

Make Your Own Volcano



Watch what happens when the vinegar is added to the liquid in the cup!



Aim



- To explain how volcanoes are formed.

Success Criteria

- I can show you how tectonic plates move.
- I can tell you how a volcano is formed.
- I can name some of the parts of a volcano.
- I can tell you what happens when a volcano erupts.

Make Your Own Volcano

You will need:

- washing-up liquid
- baking soda
- vinegar
- red food colouring
- plastic cup



You could also build a paper mache volcano and put the cup inside it for extra effect!

- 1 Fill your glass just over half way full with water. Add 3 teaspoons of baking soda and give it a good stir until most of the baking soda dissolves.
- 2 Add a good squirt of washing-up liquid into the cup and once again give it a stir.
- 3 Make sure your volcano is in the kitchen or outside (or somewhere you don't mind making a mess).
- 4 Quickly pour in just a quarter of a cup of vinegar and enjoy your very own volcanic eruption!

The science behind it:

You just made a chemical reaction! By mixing the acid (vinegar) and the alkali (bicarbonate of soda), bubbles of carbon dioxide (CO_2) were released like in a pyroclastic flow. These move very fast and are extremely dangerous, whilst lava flows more slowly and isn't that much of a threat.

