

12.2 VOCABULARY

volcano - an erupting vent through which molten rock and other materials reach Earth's surface, or a mountain built from the products of an eruption.

magma - underground melted rock.

magma chamber - a location where magma collects inside Earth.

lava - magma that has reached and cooled on Earth's surface.

caldera - the bowl-shaped depression formed by the collapse of a volcano after it has erupted.

resurgent dome - a mound in the vent of an erupted volcano.

lava lake - a pool of lava that has formed in a caldera.

active volcano - a volcano that is erupting or that has erupted recently.

dormant volcano - a volcano that is not erupting now, but that may erupt in the future.

extinct volcano - a volcano that no longer erupts and is in the process of eroding.

volcanic neck - solid remains of magma that filled the conduit of an extinct volcano. The neck is exposed as the volcano erodes.

shield volcano - a flat and wide volcano that has low-silica magma with low or high levels of dissolved gas.

cinder cone - a volcano that has low-silica magma with high levels of dissolved gas; these volcanoes produce "fire fountain" eruptions.

composite volcano - a tall, explosive, cone-shaped volcano formed by layers of silica-rich lava and ash.

pyroclastic flow - a destructive cloud of volcanic material that moves quickly down the side of a volcano after an explosive eruption.

lava bomb - large pieces of glowing lava thrown from an explosive eruption.

lahar - a mudflow that results from a volcanic eruption.

Ring of Fire - a region of Earth's plate boundaries where oceanic crust is subducting under other plates; active volcanoes and earthquakes are common here.

volcanic island arc - a series of volcanoes formed at a subduction zone.

hot spot - the top of a mantle plume.

volcanic island chain - a series of volcanoes formed as a lithospheric plate moves over the hot spot.