

**Knowledge**

**Skills**

**Vocabulary**

- Earth's surface is always changing.
- Mountains formation is driven by forces beneath the Earth's surface. Currents carry hot and cool materials closer to the surface and back down. These currents carry continents and pull them apart and closer together.

**What causes earthquakes and volcanoes?**

Beneath the Earth's surface there are red hot rocks. As these rocks move, they cause earthquakes on the surface. When they break through, they create volcanoes. This tends to happen near plate boundaries.

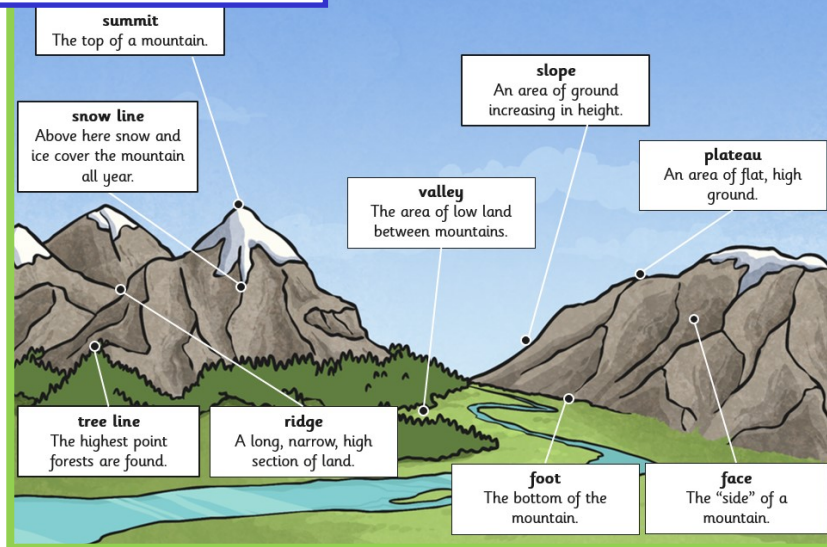
Volcanoes produce fertile soil; that's why people live near them.

Earthquakes are caused by a sudden release of energy in the Earth's crust. They can happen at different depths.

**Measuring earthquakes**

There are two scales for measuring earthquakes. The Richter scale measures the energy from the shock. The Mercalli scale measures the effect on people and buildings.

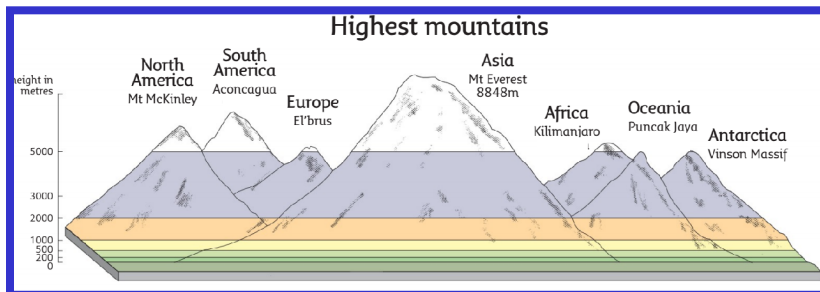
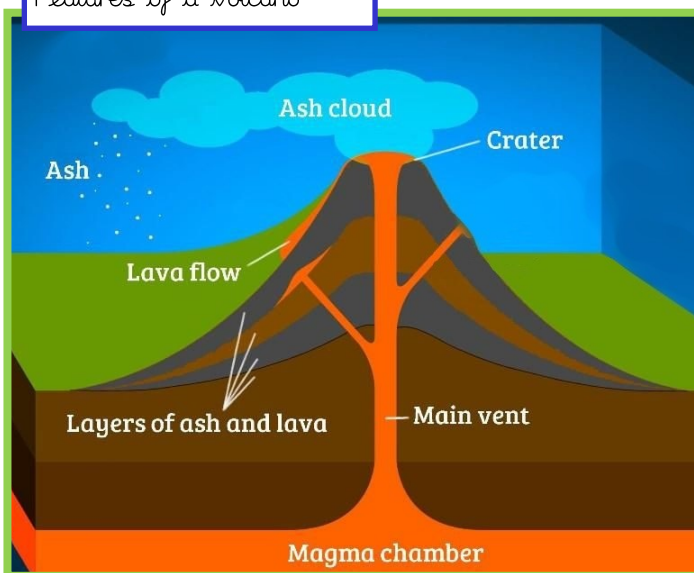
**Features of a mountain**



Vulcan - Roman god of fire



**Features of a volcano**



volcano	an opening in the Earth's crust where red-hot rocks and gas break to the surface from underground.
tectonic plates	Large pieces of Earth's crust
extinct volcano	Volcano that will not erupt again
dormant volcano	volcanoes that have not erupted for a while, but which still may become active again sometime in the future.
magma	molten rock in Earth's crust.
lava	magma that reaches the surface of Earth through a volcano vent
earthquake	the shaking of the surface of the Earth
tsunami	a tidal wave caused by an earthquake happening in the sea.