

Volcanoes

Name: _____

A volcano is an opening or split in the surface of the Earth. Molten rock (known as magma), volcanic ash and gas escape from within the earth and erupt onto the Earth's surface. Volcanoes are normally found at the fault lines between tectonic plates. Volcanoes can be active or dormant. There are 4 major types of volcanoes:

- **Cinder cones:** a cone-shaped volcano where lava flows through a single vent. As the gas-filled lava erupts into the air, the lava crumbles into pieces and forms cinders.
- **Composite volcanoes:** releases gases, ash, pumice and small amounts of lava - these are also known as Strato Volcanoes.
- **Shield volcanoes:** effusive eruptions which flow out in all directions.
- **Lava domes:** a rounded volcano that forms when viscous lava barely flows.

Most volcanoes are found in the area known as the Ring of Fire in the Pacific Ocean. Did you know... the Plianesberg mountains are an ancient volcanic structure situated in the North West Province of South Africa.

1. Which country has the most active volcanoes? Unscramble the word to find out: **selnsilone**

2. What is a volcano?

3. What is molten rock also known as?

4. Name the four types of volcanoes:

