

Volcano Vocabulary List & Definitions

disaster	a sudden calamity, esp. one causing widespread damage or suffering.
dormant	in a state of temporary inactivity or rest; suspended or slowed down.
erosion	the process by which material from the earth's surface is worn away by forces such as glaciers, wind, and waves.
eruption	any volcano that is actively releasing lava and/or gases.
lava	molten rock erupting from a volcano or volcanic fissure.
ash	the soft residue that remains after combustion.
magma	the hot, liquefied matter beneath the earth's surface that erupts from volcanos and cools to produce igneous rock.
pumice	light, porous hardened lava, powdered or whole, used as an abrasive and polishing agent.
summit	the part with the highest elevation, esp. of a mountain; peak.
vent	an opening which allows entrance, passage, or exit of a gas or vapor, esp. of air or smoke.
crater	a bowl-shaped depression with a raised rim, such as the mouth of a volcano or geyser, or the circular depressions on the surface of the moon, usu. with a mountain at their center.