

Name: _____ Date: _____

Cause and Effect

To assess students' ability to identify cause-and-effect relationships.

Passage:

How Volcanoes Erupt

A volcanic eruption occurs when pressure builds up beneath the Earth's surface.

Magma rises through cracks in the Earth's crust and eventually erupts from the volcano. The eruption releases ash, gases, and lava into the air, which can cause destruction to nearby areas. For example, the eruption of Mount St. Helens in 1980 destroyed large areas of forest and affected the local environment for years.

Questions:

1. What causes a volcanic eruption?
 - (a) When too many trees grow near a volcano.
 - (b) When pressure builds up beneath the Earth's surface.
 - (c) When rain falls on a volcano.
2. What is one effect of a volcanic eruption?
 - (a) It cools down the Earth's surface.
 - (b) It destroys forests and affects the environment.
 - (c) It prevents future eruptions.
3. Why did the eruption of Mount St. Helens affect the environment for years?
 - (a) Because the ash and gases damaged the forests and wildlife.
 - (b) Because the volcano erupted multiple times.
 - (c) Because lava covered the entire state.
4. What other effects might a volcanic eruption have on people living near the volcano?
