

The Geography of Japan

Lesson 5: Volcanoes

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Learning Objectives:

- Describe a volcano and its location.
- Categorise the effects and responses of an eruption.
- Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of living near a volcano.

Curriculum Links:

This unit covers aspects of KS3 National Curriculum in England for Geography relating to:

- Location knowledge
- Place knowledge
- Human and physical geography
- Geographical skills and fieldwork

See the Scheme of Work or National Curriculum for further details:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/239087/SECONDARY_national_curriculum_-_Geography.pdf Department for Education (2013).

Keywords:

Volcano, eruption, crater, steep, base, lava, ash, composite, destructive plate boundary, social, economic, environmental

Resources:

Presentation: Volcanoes of Japan

Worksheets: Sakurajima Fact File

Additional Resources:

Video: *Preview of The South-West Islands* showing footage of Sakurajima

<https://www.bbcasia.com/video/?v=542897#> (external resource, BBC, '2:59)

Warm up & Starter

- Introduce students to the idea of Hatsu-yume, the first dream of the new year. Show students the top three luckiest things to dream about according to Japanese tradition. Ask them what they would consider to be lucky to dream about.
- Move on to the starter activity, matching up key terms which introduce some key terminology needed for the lesson. For the challenge task, students are asked to come up with other key terms they think will be useful when studying a volcano.

Estimated Time: 15 minutes

Task 1

- Students are shown an image of Mount Fuji with labels identifying its key features and a description as an example. Show students a diagram of a composite volcano and briefly explain that they are made up of layers of ash and lava.
- Students should attempt to write their own description of the Sakurajima volcano in the relevant box on the Fact File worksheet. Discuss the location of Sakurajima and the island of Kyushu using maps and briefly describe how active the volcano is. Students should use the information to complete the 'location' box on their worksheet too.

Estimated Time: 10 minutes

Task 2

- Students are given a range of effects and responses of the eruption of Sakurajima. They must categorise the statements into social, economic and environmental effects and responses using their worksheet. There are answers on slide 11 (click directly on the boxes to reveal the colour coded answers, clicking outside the boxes moves the slide on). There is an opportunity for self or peer assessment after this.
- For the challenge task, students should identify which of the effects are positive and which are negative and give their opinion on whether the volcano does more harm than good?

Estimated Time: 20 minutes

Task 3

- Use the presentation to complete the true or false task based on learning from this lesson. Students can write the answers in their books, use mini whiteboards, or by show of hands.

Estimated Time: 5 minutes

Plenary

- Introduce students to yuru-chara mascots. Students can design a yuru-chara character for their school or home town, or alternatively, for the volcano or the town to reflect what they have learnt.

Estimated Time: 10 minutes