

Guided reading extract and vocabulary to research

Hot rocks

17 There are places on Earth where hot, liquid rocks shoot up through the surface. These are volcanoes. Beneath a volcano is a huge space filled with molten (liquid) rock. This is the magma chamber. Inside the chamber, pressure builds like the pressure in a fizzy drink's can if you shake it. Ash, steam and molten rock called lava escape from the top of the volcano – this is an eruption.

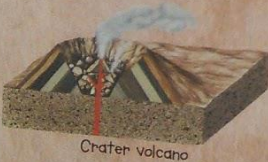
Lava flowing away from vent

Molten rock spreading out under the volcano and cooling down

Volcanic bomb



Shield volcano



Crater volcano



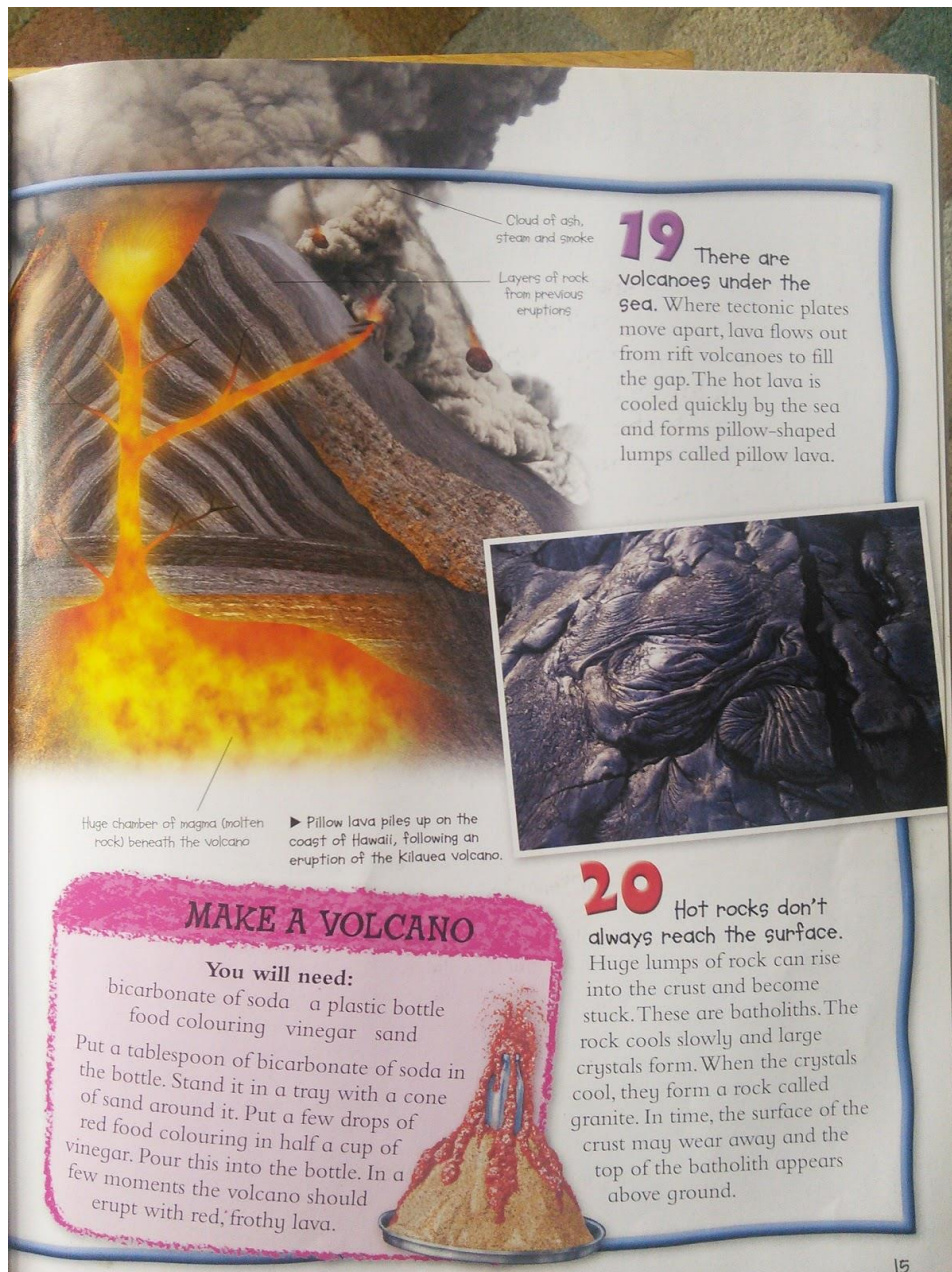
Cone-shaped volcano

▲ The three common types of volcano. Most volcanoes erupt along tectonic plate boundaries.

► When a volcano erupts, the hot rock from inside the Earth escapes as ash, smoke, lumps of rock called volcanic bombs and rivers of lava.

18 Volcanoes erupt in different ways and form different shapes. Most have a central 'pipe', reaching from the magma chamber up to the vent opening. Some volcanoes have runny lava. It flows from the vent and makes a domed shape called a shield volcano. Other volcanoes have thick lava. When they erupt, gases in the lava make it explode into pieces of ash. The ash settles on the lava to make a cone-shaped volcano. A caldera, or crater volcano, is made when the top of a cone-shaped volcano explodes and sinks into the magma chamber.





Find out the meanings of the following words and use them in a sentence

Pressure
 Boundaries
 Eruption
 Vent
 Surface
 Boundaries
 Previous

Now pick out three examples of 'technical' vocabulary from the text, and explain their meaning.