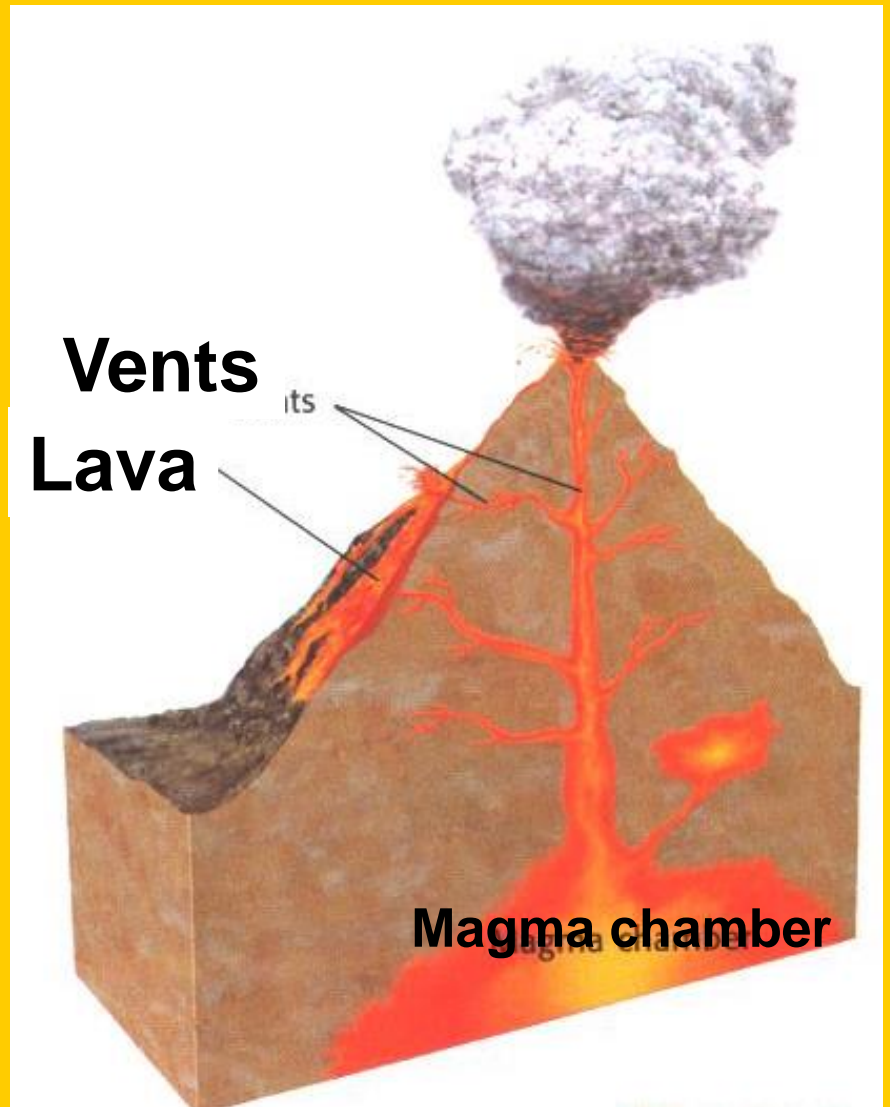




**Tungurahua Volcano, Ecuador**  
*Picture by Alcinoe Calahorrano*

# Volcanoes

**Volcanoes**  
A release of  
magma onto  
Earth's surface  
near a vent

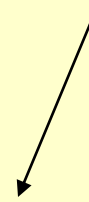


# Volcanic Eruptions

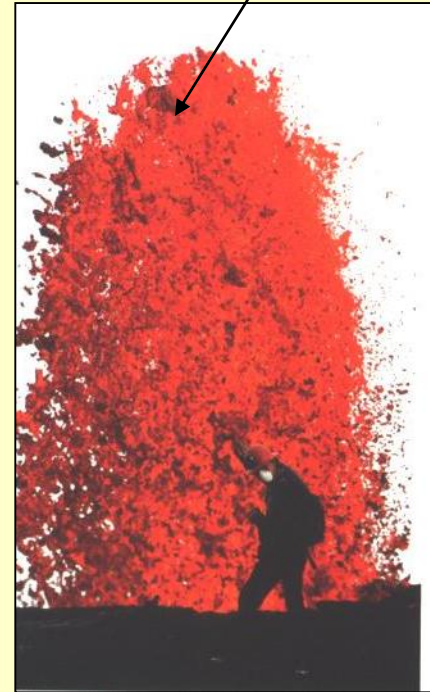
- Nonexplosive Eruptions



*Lava flow*



*Lava fountain*



- Explosive Eruptions



What is *Lava*?

-magma that flows onto the Earth's surface

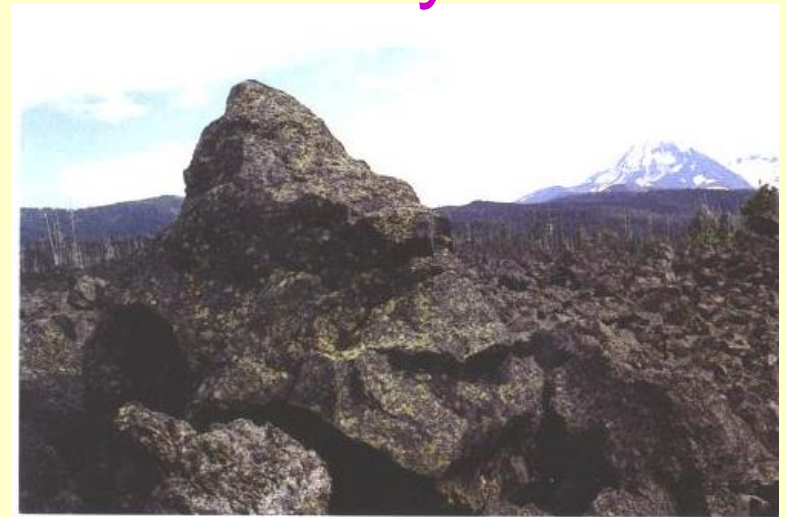
# The Composition of Magma Determines whether it is explosive or not!

- High **water** content
  - More likely to be **EXPLOSIVE !!!**
- High **silica** content
  - More likely to be **EXPLOSIVE !!!**
  - **Why?**
    - Silica has a thick, stiff consistency
      - Flows slowly
      - Tends to Harden in the volcano's vent

# What Erupts from a Volcano?

Lava can be thick or thin.

Blocky lava



Pahoehoe



Aa



Pillow lava





# What Erupts from a Volcano?

## Pyroclastic material

- **Rock** fragments created by **EXPLOSIVE** eruptions
  - magma explodes from volcano and solidifies in the air
  - existing rock is shattered by powerful eruptions



Volcanic blocks



Volcanic bombs

Lapilli



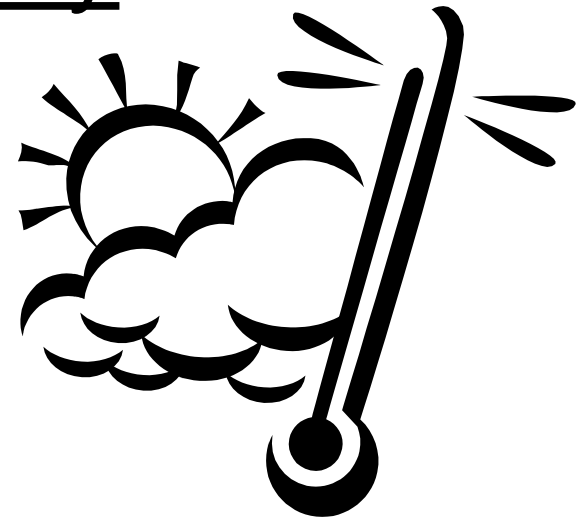
Volcanic ash



# How do volcanoes affect the Earth?

## Flows and Fallouts

- hot ash can flow really quickly
  - Knock down buildings
  - Dam rivers (flooding/drought)
  - Kill crops and livestock



## Climatic Changes

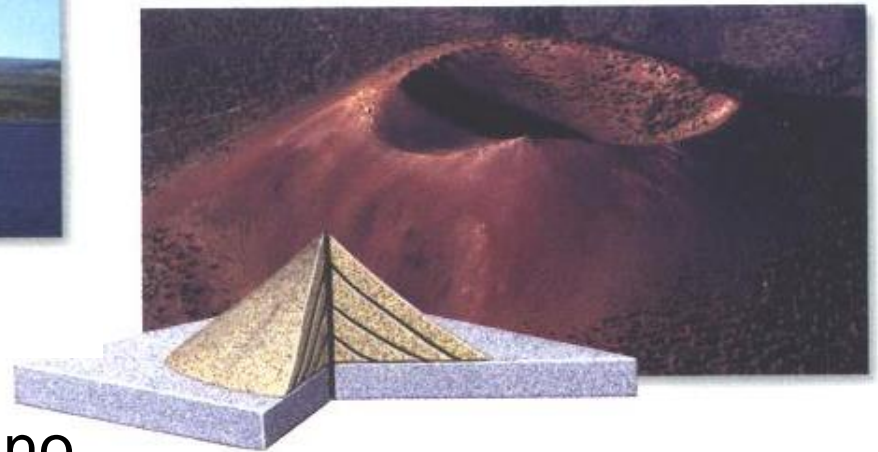
- Ash & Gases can block sunlight
- Drop average global temperature noticeably

# Types of Volcanoes

Shield volcano



Cinder cone volcano



Composite volcano





# Craters, Calderas, and Lava Plateau

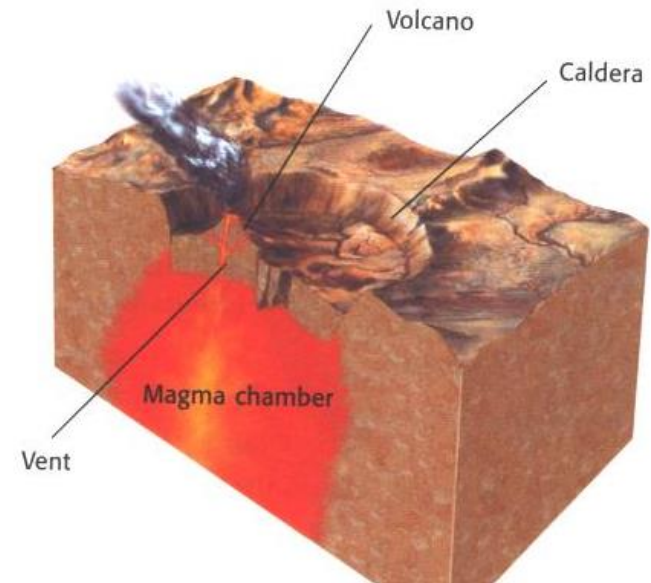
## Crater

- From explosions of material out of the vent and the collapse of material back into vent



## Caldera

- Much larger depression that forms when magma chamber empties and its roof collapses



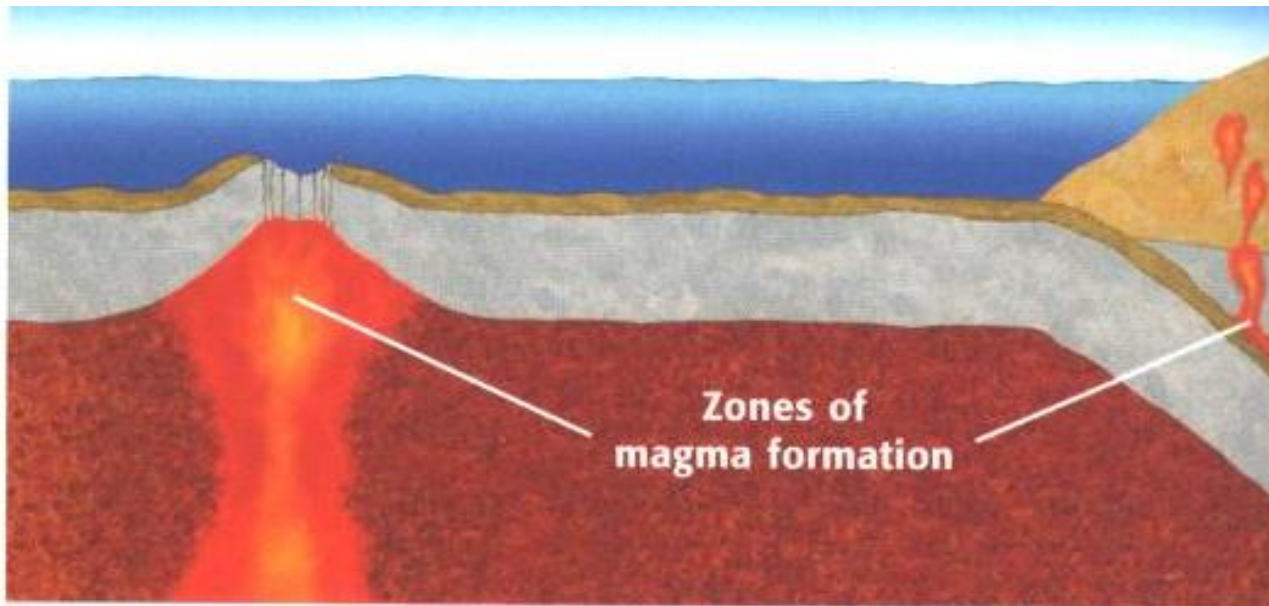
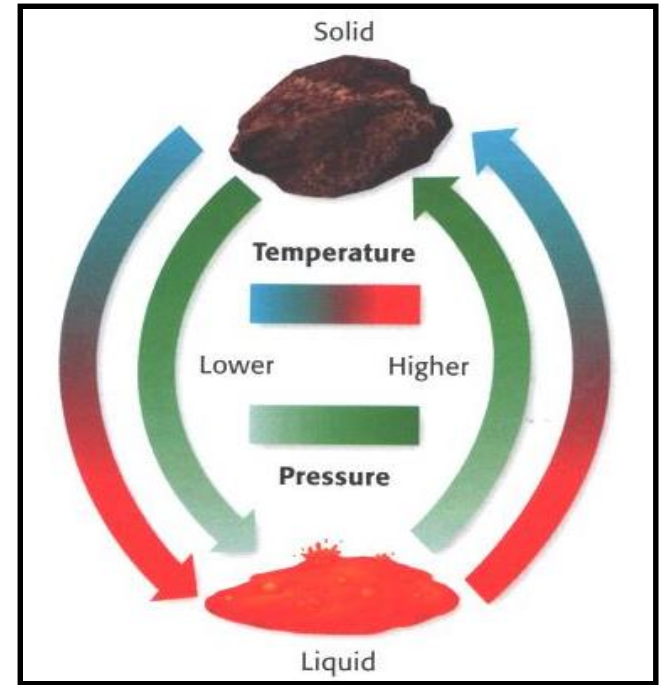
## Lava Plateau

- Forms when lava erupts from long cracks, or fissures, and spreads out evenly (thousands of km)

# What causes volcanoes?

## The Formation of Magma

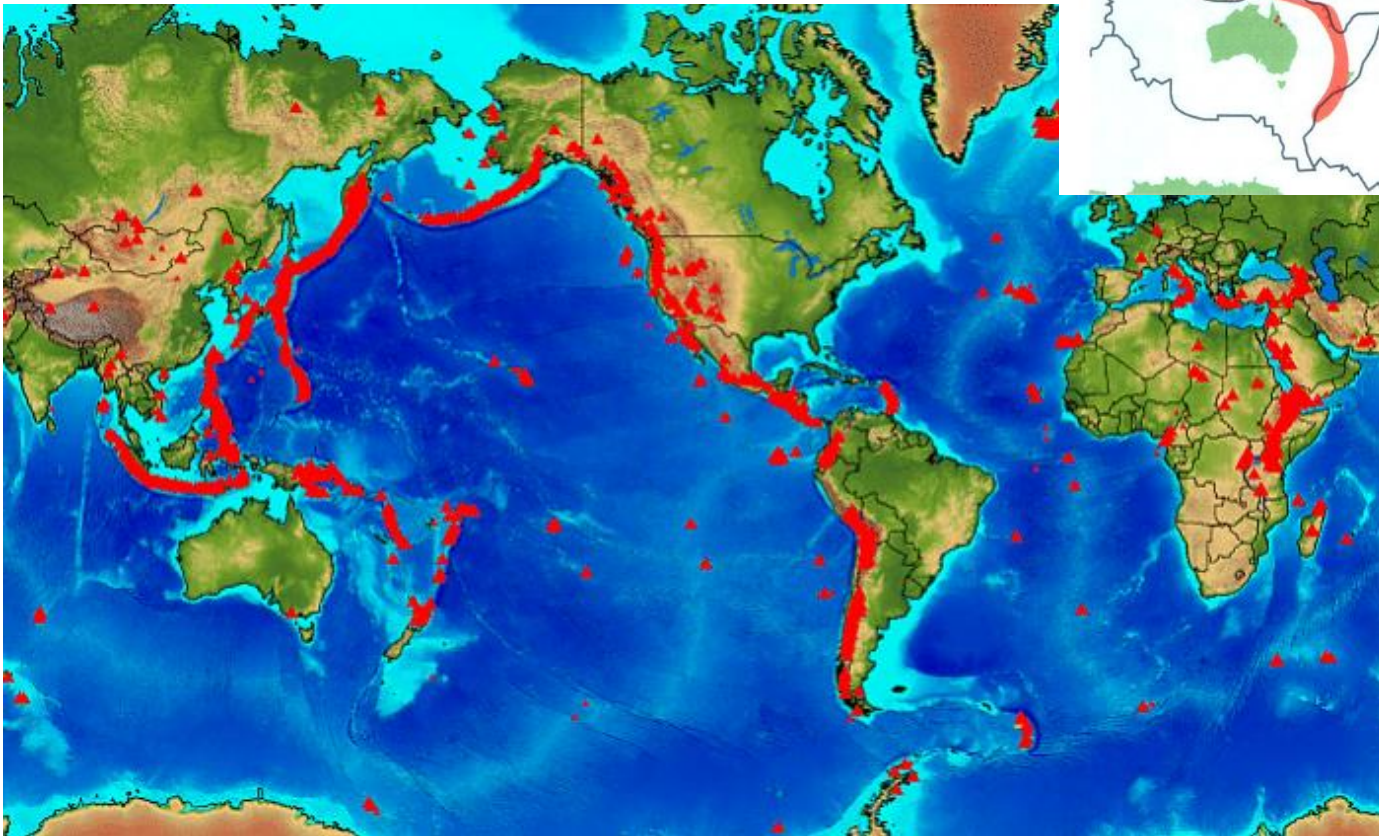
- Mantle rock melts when the temperature increases or the pressure decreases.



# What causes volcanoes?

## Where Volcanoes Form

- Tectonic Plate Boundaries!!!

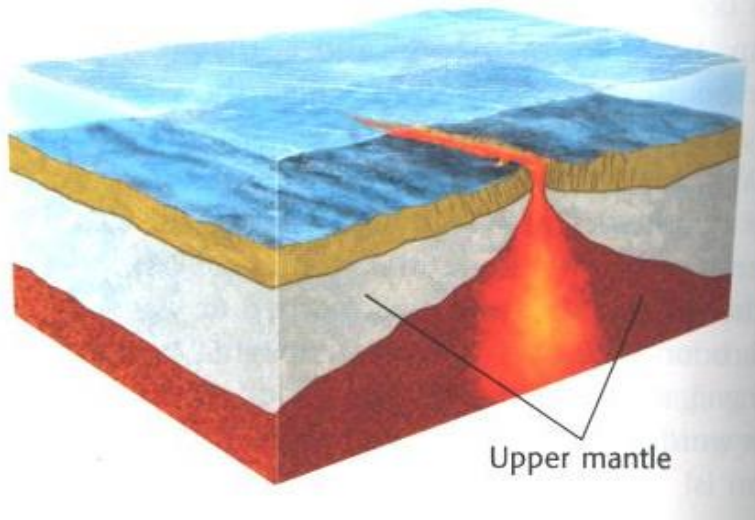
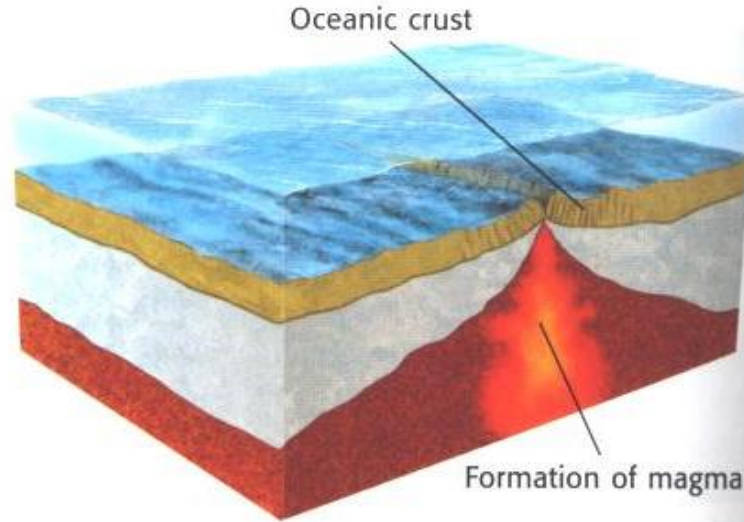


~75% world's active volcanoes in Ring of Fire

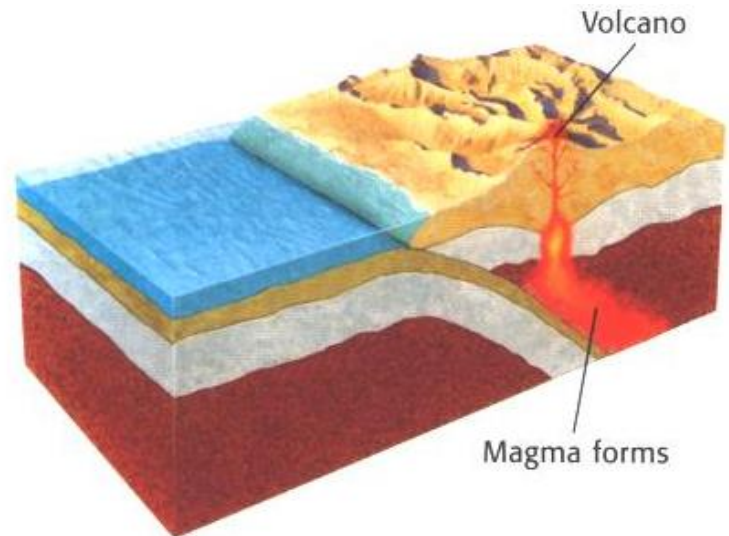
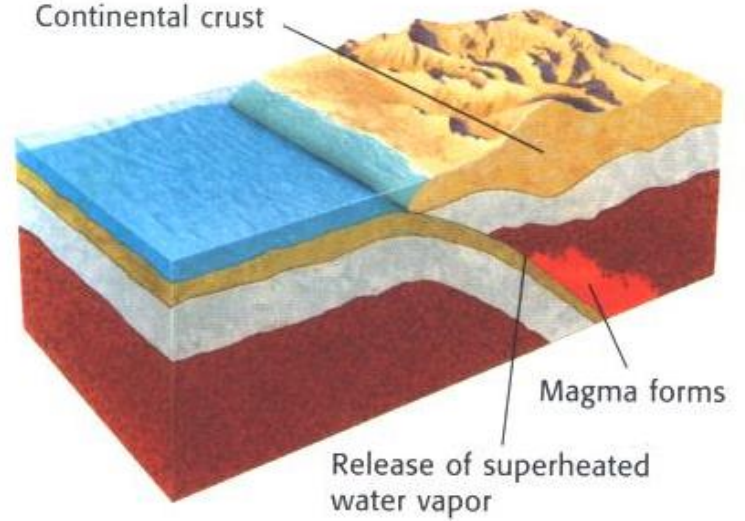


# What causes volcanoes?

Boundary



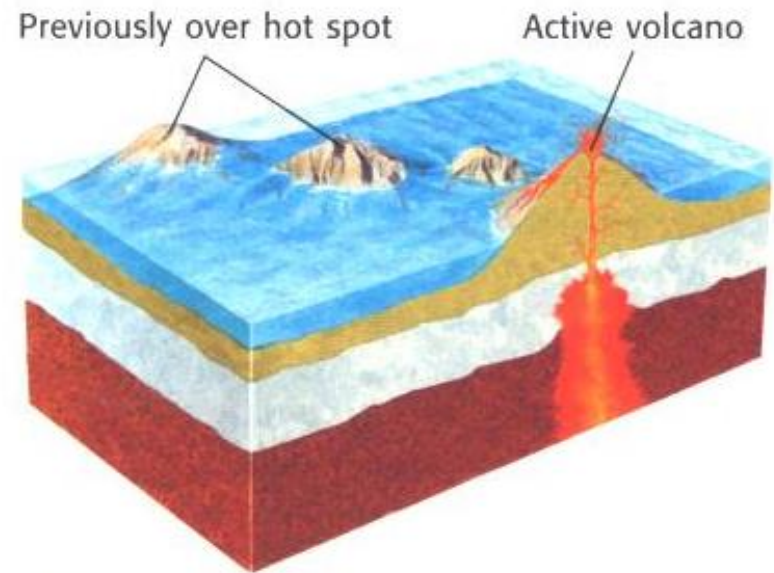
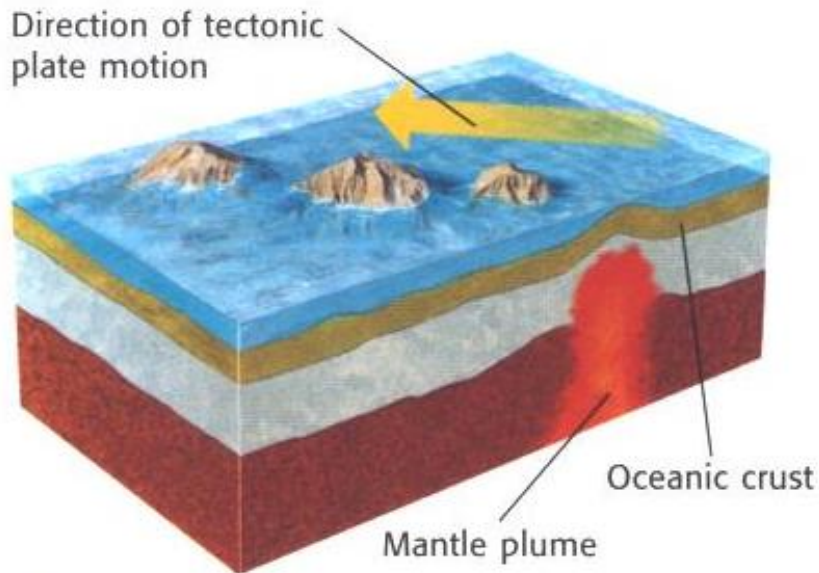
Continental crust



# What causes volcanoes?

## Hot Spots

Areas beneath crust where magma plumes rise and punch through the surface





# How do volcanologists predict eruptions?

- Measuring Small Quakes
  - Before eruption, increase in number & intensity
- Measuring Slope
  - Bulges may form with magma (tiltmeter)
- Measuring Volcanic Gases
  - Outflow of volcanic gases
    - Sulfur dioxide, carbon dioxide
- Measuring Temperature from Orbit
  - Measure changes in temperature over time

# You should not be a Volcanologist if....

- You don't like hiking, backpacking, rockclimbing, etc.

- You are not interested in experiencing extreme temperatures and heights.

- If you don't like to travel to incredible places and see breathtaking views of the world.



Robert  
McGimsey  
USGS

A. Ozerov