



Plates, Quakes and Lava

Original Activity can be found at <http://sciencelearn.org.nz/Contexts/Earthquakes/Teaching-and-Learning-Approaches/Plates-and-quakes>

In this activity, students take on the roles of [seismologists](#), volcanologists and geographers, using maps to look for patterns in the worldwide distribution of earthquakes, volcanoes and topographic features. By the end of this activity, students should:

- understand that some locations have so many earthquakes and volcanoes and others do not
- be able to relate their findings to the positions of [tectonic plates](#) and their boundaries
- understand that specialists collaborate to provide [evidence](#) to support their ideas.

You will be in groups of 4:

- Your group has been given a continent or location _____
- Each group member will have a role, please assign them:
 - Volcanologist _____
 - Seismologist _____
 - Geographer _____
 - Specialist _____
- Your group will have 40 minutes to compile all of their own parts.
 - Specialists will need some data from the other 3 group members to complete their part, So work quick!

Volcanologists:

- You will need to design or find a **** Free **** design of the anatomy of a volcano.
- You need statistics about volcanoes:
 - How much damage do they cause?
 - What are the costs?
 - What is the time frame to rebuild afterwards?
 - What type of plate boundary is responsible on your continent for these volcanoes?
 - How many typically erupt in say a decade, or century or a specified time frame?
 - Are there factors that can be used to predict them, what are they?

Seismologists:

- You will need to design or find a **** Free **** design of the anatomy of an earthquake.
- You need statistics about earthquakes:
 - How much damage do they cause?
 - What are the costs?
 - What is the time frame to rebuild afterwards? (about)
 - What type of plate boundary is responsible on your continent for these earthquakes?

- How many typically occur in say a decade, or century or a specified time frame?
- Are there factors that can be used to predict them, what are they?

Geographers:

- You will need to find the closest topographic map of your region where volcanoes and earthquakes occur. (I realize this will take the most of your time)
- You need to show if your topography has something to do with how your plate boundaries react or create the “perfect environment” for volcanoes and earthquakes.

Specialists:

- You need to answer the following (use your map to help you):
 - Where on the plates is the highest land typically found?
 - Where do the most earthquakes and volcanoes occur?
 - What plate boundary would have more earthquakes than volcanoes? Why?
 - Which plate boundary has more volcanoes than earthquakes? Why?
 - Is there a relationship between the distribution of earthquakes, volcanoes and elevation?
 - What might cause the patterns they you observed?
 - Based on the information above, how does this affect your group’s given location?

At the end of 40 minutes, your group will need to create a Piktograph, info graphic to showcase your information.

- The piktograph must include:
 - Statistics about earthquakes AND Volcanoes (you can chose the topic for your statistics: damage, deadliest, costliest, etc)
 - Pictures to show an example of each; earthquake and volcano (chose one location for the picture, be sure to note its location)
 - Type of plate boundary that is responsible for this action.
 - Number of earthquakes in a specified time frame (you choose the time frame of years for your data)
 - Number of volcanoes earthquakes in a specified time frame (you choose the time frame of years for your data)
 - Any additional information or facts you found while doing your research.

Be leery of using only Wikipedia.

Try to stick with sights that you know can be trusted (examples): Encyclopedias online (Encarta, World Book, etc), USGS, etc

**** You will need to share your infographic and your research with me prior to exiting the class!! ****

