Volcano Fact Sheet

More than 80% of the Earths surface was created by volcanic action.

Someone who studies volcanoes is called a Volcanologist.

Many Islands were created by Volcanic action.

There are more than 1500 active volcanoes on the earth

The largest collection of Volcanoes is called "The Ring of Fire" a series of over 200 volcanoes that encircles the Pacific Ocean.

Indonesia is the country with the most volcanoes

The biggest active volcano in the world is Mauna Loa in Hawaii.

The oldest volcano in the world is Mount Etna. It is estimated to be 350,000 years old.

Volcanoes are not always mountain shaped. Some volcanoes for depressions in the earth because the loss of magma and earth materials causes the earth to sag.

There are volcanoes under the oceans. Yup and there are estimated to be as many as ten thousand of them.

It is estimated that about 60 volcanoes erupt every year around the world. But the large majority of these are very weak.

How is the size of an eruption determined? There is a scale that volcanologists use. It is called the Volcanic Explosivity Index or VEI and it is based on a number of things that are observed during an eruption.

The largest volcano eruption in the last 600 years was the Tambora Volcano in Indonesia. It erupted in 1815.

There are five types of volcano: The Shield volcano, The Cinder Cone, The Dome, The Stratovolcano and the Caldera.

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