

Name: _____

Date: _____

How Volcanoes Form

Grades 5-6

Nonfiction

- 1 Deep beneath our feet, Earth is incredibly hot. In some places, rock melts into a thick, glowing liquid called magma. Because magma is lighter than the solid rock around it, it slowly rises toward the surface.
- 2 Earth's outer layer is broken into giant pieces called tectonic plates. These plates move very slowly, only a few centimeters each year. Most volcanoes form where plates pull apart or push together. Where they pull apart, magma rises to fill the gap. Where one plate slides beneath another, it melts and forms new magma.
- 3 When pressure builds up underground, magma bursts through openings in Earth's crust. Once it reaches the surface, it is called lava. Eruptions can also blast out clouds of ash, gas and rock.
- 4 Each eruption adds new layers of cooled lava and ash, and over thousands of years a mountain can grow. Some volcanoes erupt gently with rivers of lava, while others explode violently.
- 5 Many of the world's active volcanoes lie around the edges of the Pacific Ocean, in an area called the Ring of Fire. Scientists called volcanologists watch these volcanoes closely, measuring earthquakes, gases and changes in the ground to warn people before an eruption.

Draw something you learned from this text.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Questions: How Volcanoes Form

Read the passage again if you need to. Circle the best answer.

1. What is magma called once it reaches the surface?

☐ a Ash

☐ b Lava

☐ c Crust

☐ d Plate

2. Why does magma rise toward the surface?

☐ a It is lighter than the solid rock around it

☐ b Wind pulls it up

☐ c Plates push it down

☐ d It is cold

3. Where do most volcanoes form?

☐ a In the middle of deserts

☐ b Where tectonic plates pull apart or push together

☐ c Only on islands

☐ d Near the North Pole

4. What is the Ring of Fire?

☐ a A volcano in Hawaii

☐ b An area of many volcanoes around the Pacific Ocean

☐ c A layer inside Earth

☐ d A kind of lava

5. Why is it important for volcanologists to watch volcanoes?

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The Last Summer at Lighthouse Point

Grades 5-6

Fiction

- 1 For as long as Nora could remember, summers meant Grandpa Walt's lighthouse. Every July, she climbed the 117 spiral steps to the lamp room, where the whole bay spread out below like a map.
- 2 This summer felt different. Grandpa moved more slowly, and a moving truck sat outside. The town had decided the old lighthouse would become a museum, and Grandpa was moving to an apartment in the village.
- 3 "Who will keep watch?" Nora asked. Grandpa chuckled. "Ships have had GPS for years, Nora. The light is more of a memory now."
- 4 Nora did not like the idea of the lighthouse being just a memory. That night she opened Grandpa's old logbooks, full of storms, rescues and ships he had guided safely home. An idea began to form.
- 5 For the rest of the summer, Nora interviewed Grandpa every evening and typed his stories on her tablet. She scanned faded photographs and labeled each one. Grandpa grumbled at first, but soon he was remembering stories even Nora's mother had never heard.
- 6 On opening day, visitors to the new museum found a display called "Keeper of the Light," filled with Grandpa's stories in his own words. Nora watched him read it, his eyes shining. The lamp might not guide ships anymore, but his stories would guide everyone who visited.

Draw your favorite part of the story.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Questions: The Last Summer at Lighthouse Point

Read the passage again if you need to. Circle the best answer.

1. Why was Grandpa Walt leaving the lighthouse?

- ☐ a He was going on vacation
- ☐ c A storm damaged it

- ☐ b It was becoming a museum
- ☐ d He was selling it to Nora

2. What gave Nora her idea?

- ☐ a A museum brochure
- ☐ c A TV show

- ☐ b Grandpa's old logbooks
- ☐ d Her teacher

3. How did Grandpa feel at first about being interviewed?

- ☐ a Thrilled
- ☐ c Frightened

- ☐ b Grumpy
- ☐ d Confused

4. In the last paragraph, what does "guide" mean in "his stories would guide everyone"?

- ☐ a Steer a ship
- ☐ c Sell tickets

- ☐ b Teach and inspire
- ☐ d Build a museum

5. What is the theme of the story? Support your answer with evidence.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Coach Rivera's Tough Choice

Grades 5-6

Fiction

- 1 The Eagles were one game away from the championship, and everyone knew who would take the final shot: Jalen, the team's top scorer. What nobody knew was that Jalen had missed three practices that week.
- 2 Coach Rivera had one simple rule: if you skip practice without a reason, you sit out the next game. She had enforced it all season, even with players who barely played. But this was the semifinal.
- 3 At lunch, Jalen explained that he had been babysitting his little sisters while his mother worked extra shifts. He had been too embarrassed to tell anyone.
- 4 Coach Rivera thought about it all afternoon. The rule was about showing up for the team, but Jalen had been showing up for his family. She decided that he would play, but that he owed the team an honest explanation.
- 5 Before the game, Jalen stood in front of his teammates and told them the truth. The locker room was silent for a moment. Then Marcus, the backup point guard, said, "Next time, tell us. We can help." Two parents offered to share babysitting duties for the rest of the season.
- 6 The Eagles lost the semifinal by two points. Still, as the players walked off the court together, Coach Rivera felt that her team had won something more important than a game.

Draw your favorite part of the story.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Questions: Coach Rivera's Tough Choice

Read the passage again if you need to. Circle the best answer.

1. Why had Jalen missed practice?

- ☐ a He was sick
- ☐ c He forgot

- ☐ b He was babysitting his sisters
- ☐ d He was on vacation

2. What was Coach Rivera's rule?

- ☐ a Top scorers always play
- ☐ c Everyone plays the same minutes

- ☐ b Skip practice without a reason and you sit out the next game
- ☐ d No talking at practice

3. How did the team respond to Jalen's explanation?

- ☐ a They were angry
- ☐ c They laughed

- ☐ b They offered to help
- ☐ d They ignored him

4. What does the last sentence suggest?

- ☐ a The team was unhappy
- ☐ c The coach wanted to quit

- ☐ b The team learned about honesty and supporting each other
- ☐ d Winning is all that matters

5. Do you agree with Coach Rivera's decision? Explain why, using details from the story.

Name: _____

Date: _____

The Machine That Changed the World

Grades 5-6

Nonfiction

- 1 Imagine a world where every book had to be copied by hand. Before the 1400s, that was how books were made in Europe. Scribes spent months, sometimes years, carefully writing out a single book. Books were rare and expensive, and few people learned to read.
- 2 Around 1440, a German goldsmith named Johannes Gutenberg began developing a printing press. He later set up his workshop in the city of Mainz. His big idea was movable type: small metal blocks, each with a single raised letter, that could be arranged into words, inked and pressed onto paper. When a page was finished, the letters could be taken apart and used again.
- 3 Gutenberg's press could produce pages far faster than any scribe. In the 1450s, his workshop printed a famous Bible, and copies of it still exist today.
- 4 Printing spread quickly across Europe. Within about fifty years, presses in many cities had printed millions of copies of books. As books became cheaper, more people learned to read, and new ideas in science, religion and art traveled farther and faster than ever before.
- 5 Many historians consider the printing press one of the most important inventions in history. In a way, it was the information revolution of its time, much like the internet is today.

Draw something you learned from this text.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Questions: The Machine That Changed the World

Read the passage again if you need to. Circle the best answer.

1. How were books made in Europe before the printing press?

- ☐ a By machines
- ☐ b Copied by hand
- ☐ c Printed with wood blocks only
- ☐ d They were not made

2. What was Gutenberg's job before he became a printer?

- ☐ a A teacher
- ☐ b A goldsmith
- ☐ c A farmer
- ☐ d A scribe

3. What is movable type?

- ☐ a A moving truck for books
- ☐ b Small metal letters that can be arranged and reused
- ☐ c A kind of paper
- ☐ d A machine for binding books

4. Why does the author compare the printing press to the internet?

- ☐ a Both are made of metal
- ☐ b Both helped information spread quickly
- ☐ c Both were invented in Germany
- ☐ d Both use electricity

5. Explain two ways the printing press changed people's lives.

Reading Comprehension: Answer Key

How Volcanoes Form

1. b) Lava
2. a) It is lighter than the solid rock around it
3. b) Where tectonic plates pull apart or push together
4. b) An area of many volcanoes around the Pacific Ocean
5. Sample answer: They measure earthquakes, gases and ground changes so they can warn people before an eruption and keep them safe.

The Last Summer at Lighthouse Point

1. b) It was becoming a museum
2. b) Grandpa's old logbooks
3. b) Grumpy
4. b) Teach and inspire
5. Sample answer: Memories and stories can keep something important alive. Nora saves Grandpa's stories so the lighthouse's history lives on in the museum.

Coach Rivera's Tough Choice

1. b) He was babysitting his sisters
2. b) Skip practice without a reason and you sit out the next game
3. b) They offered to help
4. b) The team learned about honesty and supporting each other
5. Sample answer: Answers will vary. A strong answer states an opinion and uses details, such as Jalen missing practice to care for his sisters or the team offering to help.

The Machine That Changed the World

1. b) Copied by hand
2. b) A goldsmith
3. b) Small metal letters that can be arranged and reused
4. b) Both helped information spread quickly
5. Sample answer: Books became cheaper so more people learned to read, and new ideas spread faster across Europe.