

CONCEPTUALYZE

Multiple Links Exercise Factsheet

How do Volcanoes Form?

The cause of volcanoes erupting is the movement of tectonic plates.

Sometimes, tectonic plates collide. When this happens, one is pushed down while another slides on top. This creates cracks in the plate, which allow melted rock known as magma to escape.

Sometimes, tectonic plates spread apart. This also allows magma to escape.

The magma that escapes rises to the Earth's surface. Magma that comes out on the Earth's surface is known as lava.

As layers of lava build up, they form a volcano, which is an opening in the Earth's crust. Volcanic eruptions occur when volcanoes lava, ash and hot gases.