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 SCHOLASTIC

News

Edition 3

with
Weekly
Reader.

Video

Into the
Volcano

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Lava Land

A volcano in Hawaii has been erupting
nonstop for almost 35 years!

Brain Builder Would you live near a volcano? Why or why not?



On several occasions, Kilauea's lava has flowed into towns and destroyed buildings.

Lava Land

How would you like to see lava flowing right in front of your eyes? At Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, visitors do just that. The park is home to Kilauea (kee-lah-WAY-uh), one of the most active volcanoes on the planet!

Kilauea has been erupting nonstop for almost 35 years. Recently, much of its lava has been oozing into the Pacific Ocean—and adding new land along the **coast** of Hawaii's largest island.

Hot History

Lava is the reason the Hawaiian Islands exist. Millions of years ago, hot melted rock from deep inside Earth burst through a hole in the ocean floor. The lava cooled and hardened into rock. As lava continued to escape, the rock built up underwater. It formed the islands. Thanks to Kilauea, Hawaii is still growing today.

Kilauea is located on what is known as the Big Island. (The island's official name is Hawaii, the same as the state's.) The volcano's **current** eruption started in 1983. Its lava has flowed in different directions at different times. Usually, it flows and hardens on the land around the volcano. But sometimes it heads all the way to the ocean. That's what has been happening for a little over a year.

In July 2016, lava began seeping over a cliff and into the waves. For a few months last winter, it even gushed like a waterfall in one spot there. The lava has stopped gushing. But it's still oozing slowly into the ocean. Since May, it has created land the size of about six football fields!

Safety First

Each year, about 2 million people visit the park to see



the lava. Park officials make sure visitors stay a safe distance away from the lava entering the sea. They also keep visitors off the newest pieces of land. This land can be **unstable**. In the past, parts have broken off.

There's no way to know when Kilauea's lava will stop flowing. But until then, the eruption is sure to keep drawing crowds.

"Watching lava pour into the ocean and create new land is an unforgettable sight," says park official Jessica Ferracane.

Words to Know

coast: land next to the sea

current: happening now

unstable: unsteady, likely to fall or move

DEBATE IT: Should Schools Stop Giving Grades?

No one at Pittsfield Elementary School in New Hampshire gets straight A's. The school has stopped giving grades. Instead, teachers send reports to parents telling which skills a student has mastered. Some people say this is more helpful than grades. But others say grades get kids to study hard. Here's what two readers think.



Yes

Schools should get rid of grades because getting a low grade can make a kid feel bad. Sometimes kids who get 100's on tests tease the kids who get lower grades. That makes the other kids get upset. I think it's better for teachers to just say where kids need more practice.

Shea King, Connecticut

Using grades has worked for a long time. Grades are good because they help get kids to do better in school. Kids probably work harder than they would without them. Grades let kids know how well they are doing in class and where they need improvement.

No



Robin Oxnam, Arizona

Whale Whispers

Humpback whales are known for being loud. Their calls can be heard up to 20 miles away. But it turns out that baby humpbacks and their moms use a different kind of communication. They whisper to each other!

For the first year of their lives, baby humpbacks stay very close to their mothers.

Scientists recently put recording devices on some mother humpbacks and calves off the west coast of Australia. Then the team listened to the recordings. They found that the moms and babies made quiet grunts and squeaks to each

other. The scientists think the humpbacks chat in this way to avoid attracting the attention of killer whales, or orcas. Orcas often hunt baby humpbacks.

Word to Know

calves: babies of certain large mammals, like whales



Find It!

Plural Nouns

Plural nouns name more than one of a person, place, or thing. Most plural nouns end in the letter *s*, such as *dogs* or *pennies*. Circle at least eight plural nouns on this page.

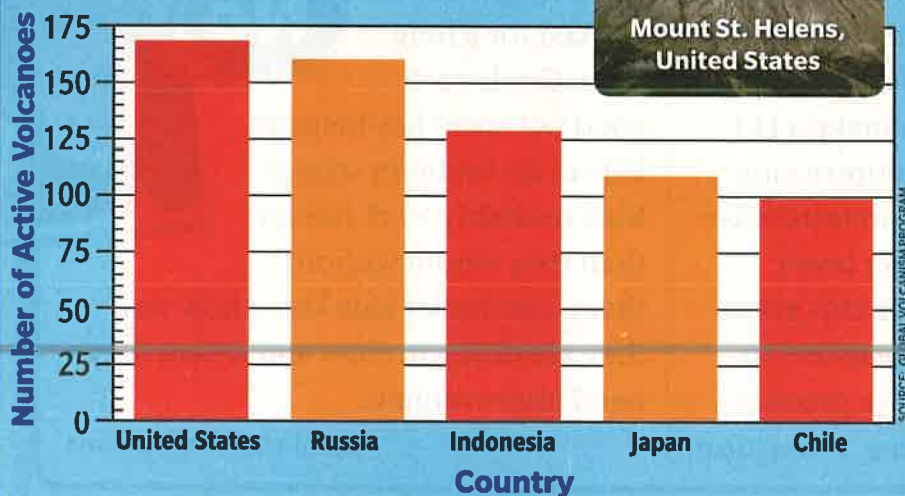
News Graph

Volcano Count

This graph shows the five countries with the most active volcanoes. An active volcano is one that has erupted at least once in the past 10,000 years or so.



Mount St. Helens,
United States



SOURCE: GLOBAL VOLCANISM PROGRAM

1. According to the graph, which country has the most active volcanoes?

2. About how many active volcanoes does Russia have?

3. Which country has more active volcanoes than Japan but fewer than Russia?

4. Which country shown on the graph has about 30 fewer active volcanoes than Indonesia?

News Review

Lava Land

1. The author's main purpose in this article is to ____.

- (A) explain how lava from Kilauea is creating new land
- (B) compare types of volcanoes
- (C) describe how lava from Kilauea has destroyed buildings and roads
- (D) persuade readers to visit Hawaii

2. The word *seeping* is similar in meaning to ____.

- (A) gushing (C) oozing
- (B) exploding (D) forming

Go to scholastic.com/sn3 for more quizzes.

3. When lava cools, it ____.

- (A) flows faster
- (B) turns into liquid
- (C) flows to the ocean
- (D) hardens into rock

4. Which clue from the article helps explain the meaning of the word *unstable*?

- (A) "... about 2 million people visit the park ..."
- (B) "In the past, parts have broken off."
- (C) "But sometimes it heads all the way to the ocean."
- (D) "But until then, the eruption is sure to keep drawing crowds."

Whale Whispers

5. Scientists recently studied humpbacks by ____.

- (A) recording their sounds
- (B) taking photos of them
- (C) swimming with them
- (D) teaching them tricks

6. According to scientists, humpback mothers whisper to their calves to ____.

- (A) help the calves fall asleep
- (B) keep people from hearing them
- (C) stay safe from orcas
- (D) avoid bothering nearby fish

