

Determine the meaning of words and phrases in a text relevant to a grade 2 topic or subject area.

Vocabulary Match: Islands and Volcanoes

Informational Text: Islands and Volcanoes

Introduce the vocabulary before reading the passage. Read this passage with students, then have them complete the worksheet.

Have you ever wondered where islands come from? When you see an island, it is hard to imagine what is below the surface of the water. Some islands are formed from **coral reefs**. Other islands are made by underwater volcanoes. But how does an underwater volcano create an island?

Under the surface of the earth, the temperature is high enough to melt rock. This melted rock is bright red or orange. When the melted rock is still in the earth, it is called **magma**. When the melted rock escapes from the earth, it is called **lava**. Sometimes a crack forms in the bottom of the ocean. When this happens, **magma** leaks out into the water. The **magma** is now **lava**. The crack becomes an undersea volcano. The ocean water is cold. It **cools** the hot lava. Then the lava hardens into black rock.

Underwater volcanoes can erupt many times. Every time this happens, **magma** flows through the crack in the ocean floor. Over time, this slowly builds more rock on top of the already **hardened** rock. The pile of black rock slowly reaches the surface of the ocean. Then it becomes an island you can see above the surface of the water.

The Hawaiian Islands are **volcanic islands**. Each Hawaiian island is made up of rock from at least one volcano. Some of the big islands are made up of rock from more than one volcano. The Big Island, for example, was **formed** from five underwater volcanoes.

Islands can be formed in different ways. But all islands are completely surrounded by water.



Vocabulary Match: Islands and Volcanoes

Match words with their meanings

Melted rock that is still in the earth	formed
Made harder	lava
Island created when a volcano erupts	hardened
Shaped	coral reef
Melted rock that comes out of a volcano.	magma
An underwater rock-like structure.	volcanic island

Write a sentence using the vocabulary word.

1. lava _____
2. hardened _____
3. coral reef _____
4. formed _____
5. magma _____
6. volcanic island _____

Vocabulary Match: Tornadoes

Informational Text: Tornadoes

Introduce the vocabulary before reading the passage. Read this passage with students, then have them complete the worksheet

Tornados are **funnel clouds** that spin, and they form during thunderstorms. They are very powerful storms and can cause a lot of damage. Scientists don't know a lot about tornados, but they know a little bit.

Tornados are most common when it is warm outside. They can form when warm, **moist** air on the ground meets cold air in the sky. If there is any wind, a tornado can form. The wind in a tornado can blow as fast as 300 miles an hour!


Sometimes tornados stay in one place, but often they move. They can move very fast. Where a tornado moves is called its path. The **tornado's path** is where the most damage happens. Tornados come very fast, and they are dangerous. But you can tell if one might be coming. If the sky is very dark and greenish, there might be a tornado coming. If there is large hail falling or there is a loud roar, there might be a tornado coming. Sometimes before a tornado hits, there isn't any wind, and the air is very still.

Tornados are dangerous, but you can be safe during one. You can go into a basement or **cellar** until it passes. Or you can go into a room in the middle of your house. That is the safest place if you can't go into a **cellar** or basement.

Some people find tornados interesting to study. Instead of staying inside during a storm, they go find the storms. They are called **storm chasers**. They try to see tornados so they can learn more about them and how they form. It's a dangerous job, but **storm chasers** are **experts**. They have studied tornados and weather a lot. They know how to find tornados but not get caught in their path. For most of us, it's best to stay inside during a tornado.



Vocabulary Match: Tornadoes

 Match words with their meanings

Where the most damage happens	storm chasers
Slightly wet	cellar
Room or rooms under the house	tornado's path
People who follow tornadoes to study them	moist
A person with special skill or knowledge	funnel cloud
A cone-shaped cloud that forms during thunderstorms	expert

 Write a sentence using the vocabulary word.

1. tornado's path _____
2. moist _____
3. cellar _____
4. storm chasers _____
5. expert _____
6. funnel cloud _____