



## **Science Exemplary Text Student Handout**

In early times, no one knew how volcanoes formed or why they spouted red-hot molten rock. In modern times, scientists began to study volcanoes. They still don't know all the answers, but they know much about how a volcano works.

Our planet is made up of many layers of rock. The top layers of solid rock are called the crust. Deep beneath the crust is the mantle, where it is so hot that some rock melts. The melted, or molten, rock is called magma.

Volcanoes are formed when magma pushes its way up through the crack in Earth's crust. This is called a volcanic eruption. When magma pours forth on the surface, it is called lava.

Simon, Seymour. (2006). *Volcanoes*. New York: HarperCollins.

This is an example of exemplary text found in *Common Core Standards for English Language Arts & Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects: Appendix B Text Exemplars and Sample Performance Tasks*. Retrieved from [http://www.corestandards.org/assets/Appendix\\_B.pdf](http://www.corestandards.org/assets/Appendix_B.pdf)

## Science Exemplary Text Teacher Resource

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**EFL 3**  
**Word Count 116**

*Teacher introduces the text with minimal commentary and students read it independently. Teacher then reads passage aloud. Give a brief definition to words students would likely not be able to define from context (underlined in text). Teacher guides the students through a series of text-dependent questions. Complete the performance task as a cumulative evaluation of the close-reading.*

### Text-Dependent Questions

1. What is our planet made up of?
2. Explain how the planet's make up relates to volcanoes.
3. Explain the difference between lava and magma.
4. How are volcanoes formed?
5. Draw a diagram of a volcano based on words from the text. Make sure you label the crust, mantle, magma, lava, and volcanic eruption.

### Performance Tasks for Informational Texts

Students determine the meaning of domain-specific words or phrases, such as crust, mantle, magma, and lava, and important general academic words and phrases that appear in Seymour Simon's *Volcanoes*. [RI.4.4]

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