

Art Activity

Build a Volcano!

Image:<https://volcano.oregonstate.edu/santa-ana>

A volcano is an opening in Earth's crust that ash, magma (lava), and other gasses escape through when enough pressure below the surface is built up. El Salvador, also known as the *Land of Volcanoes*, is home to over 160 volcanoes; 23 of which are active! This means that they are likely to erupt, unlike other dormant or extinct volcanoes. El Salvador is located in the Pacific Ring of Fire, one of the areas with the most volcanic activity on the planet.

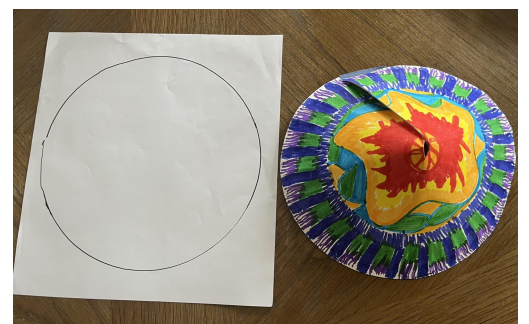
Follow the steps below to design and build your own volcano inspired by El Salvador's tallest volcano, Santa Ana, which last erupted in 2005!

Materials:

- Paper plate
- Markers
- Scissors
- Cardstock
- Cotton balls
- Construction paper
- Optional: Diet cola soda, mentos candy

Instructions:

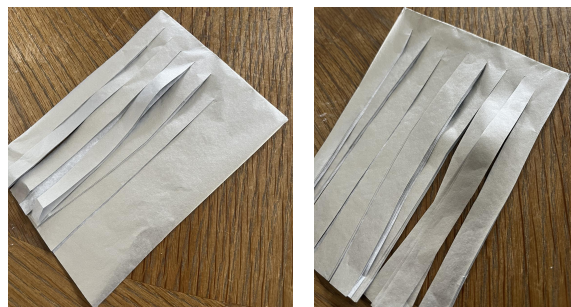
1. Use markers to color and design the back of your paper plate, this will be your volcano. The center of your plate will be the top of the volcano.
2. Use a marker to draw a line from the center of your paper plate to the edge of your paper plate. Use scissors to cut along the line.
3. Pull the two cut edges of your paper plate together to form a volcano shape. Use a stapler (or tape) to attach the two edges together.
4. Use scissors to cut off the top point of your volcano. This will be the crater, or the main vent to your volcano.
5. Place your volcano in the center of your cardstock board and trace a circle around the bottom edge.



6. Use markers and other paper pieces to color and design the board, this will be the landscape surrounding your volcano. Consider the hills, yet mountainous landscape of the Santa Ana volcano.



7. To make the lava for your volcano, fold a few sheets of tissue paper in half and use the scissors to cut strips along the open edge.



8. Roll one end of your tissue paper strips together and insert it into the top of your volcano.



9. Set your volcano in the center of your landscape and step back and marvel at your creation!

10. Use tape to attach your volcano to your landscape board. Be sure to name your newest geological formation!



Want to activate your volcano at home? Outside, on a flat surface, carefully drop 2 mentos inside a small bottle of diet cola and watch it erupt! Be careful, this can get messy. We recommend doing this experiment outside, or on a surface that can be easily cleaned.