Objective

By the end of this lesson, the student will be able to understand the basic concept of volcanoes and their characteristics.

Materials and Prep

- Construction paper
- Scissors
- Glue
- Crayons or markers
- Optional: Small plastic toy dinosaurs

Make sure to have a basic understanding of what a volcano is and its main features.

Activities

1. Create a Volcano Model

Using construction paper, scissors, and glue, help your child create a simple volcano model. Cut out a large cone shape from brown construction paper and glue it onto a green construction paper base. Encourage your child to decorate the volcano and the surrounding landscape using crayons or markers.

2. Volcano Eruption Experiment

If you have small plastic toy dinosaurs, place them around the volcano model. Fill a small container with baking soda and place it inside the volcano crater. Then, pour vinegar into the container and watch the "volcano" erupt. Explain to your child that the baking soda and vinegar react to create a bubbly eruption, similar to what happens in a real volcano.

Preschool Grade Talking Points

- "A volcano is a mountain that can erupt and release hot lava, rocks, and gases."
- "Volcanoes can be found on land and under the ocean."
- "When a volcano erupts, it can create a loud noise and send ash and smoke into the sky."
- "Lava is the hot, melted rock that comes out of a volcano when it erupts."
- "Volcanoes can be dangerous, so it's important to stay away from them when they are erupting."
- "Sometimes volcanoes can create new land, like islands in the ocean."