

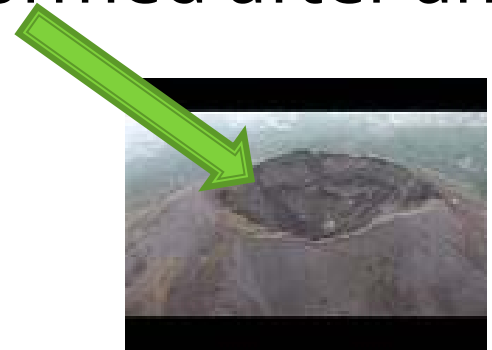
Mount Vesuvius



The volcano that killed thousands

Description

- Naples, Italy
- “Humpback” mountain due to its shape
- Large cone called Gran Cono formed after an explosion in A.D. 79
- Strato-Volcano
- In the Campanian Volcanic Arc



Size of Mount Vesuvius

- 4,190 feet tall but varies with each eruption
- Mt. Somma starts at the 1,968 feet mark and rises to 3,714 feet
- The Gran Cono- 1,000 ft deep, 1,968 feet across
- Base about 157,480 feet



How it was Created

- Vesuvius formed 25,000+ years ago
- Layers of volcanic material through the plates= mountain



Plate Boundaries

- Convergent Boundaries
- African plate slid under Eurasian plate
- Plate boundary is a subduction zone



What occurs at the Plate Boundary

- Many eruptions
- Worst in A.D. 79- buried 2 large cities under mud and lava
 - Herculaneum
 - Pompeii
- Has had other bad ones but the one in A.D. 79 was the worst



Uniqueness of Mount Vesuvius

- Still active volcano
- Last eruption in 1944
- Eruptions usually every 20 years before 1944
- When erupted in A.D. 79,
 - Changed course of Sarno River
 - Raised sea beach



Ercolano Today



Pottery Found



Ruins of a House

- When excavated, pottery and bodies were found
- Tours available
- Structures in pristine condition
 - Even wood still intact
- Some roofs of buildings gone most walls still standing

Conclusion



- Mount Vesuvius may look calm from the outside, but this volcano is a hot lava killer