



## Mount Saint Helens

*Mount Saint Helens is the only active volcano in the continental United States. This striking landmark of the Pacific Northwest was changed forever in 1980 when the mountain exploded violently. Learn more about this interesting mountain and its history by doing this Try-It.*

**To earn this Try-It, complete *FOUR* of the following activities:**

1. The native Americans of the Pacific Northwest had a number of names for the mountain we call St. Helens. Write a short story using one Native American legend about Mt. St. Helens and illustrate your story. Read this story to your Girl Scout Troop.

2. Draw a picture or write a short explanation of any ten of these volcano words. Create a matching game with your words to play with members of your Girl Scout Troop.

Lava	Fault	Lava tube	Cinder cone
Magma	Earthquake	Fumarole	"Ring of Fire"
Eruption	Seismograph	Vent	Vulcanologist
Ash	Dormant volcano	Tsunami	Geyser
Pumice	Active volcano	Caldera	Shield volcano
Crater	Extinct volcano	Fissure	Stratovolcano

3. Draw a series of pictures to show how a volcano erupts and label each part. Create a color poster of your findings and share this with your troop, service unit or others.

4. Choose one of the volcanoes listed below and discover what makes it famous. What kind of volcano is (was) it? Where is it located? What happened when it erupted?

Mazama	Etna	Lassen	Paricutin
Krakotoa	Mauna Loa	Pinatubo	Vesuvius
Surtsey	Loihi		

5. Take a field trip to one of these local sites to see how volcanoes have changed the earth's surface.

- Ape Caves, Washington
- Mt. St. Helens Interpretive Center, WA
- Coldwater Ridge Interpretive Center, WA
- Johnston Ridge Interpretive Center, WA
- Weyerhaeuser Forestry Learning Center, WA
- Sediment Retention Dam on the North Fork Toutle River, WA
- Lava Lands Visitor Center, OR
- Crater Lake and Wizard Island, OR

6. Make an earthquake kit for your home. Be sure to include items that would be needed in case a major earthquake struck your community. Information on earthquake kits is available through the American Red Cross.

7. Build a working model of a volcano with your Girl Scout troop or family, using the method described below. Share your volcano model with another Girl Scout troop, your class at school, or at a science fair.

# BROWNIE GIRL SCOUT TRY-IT: Mt. Saint Helens

## Volcano Model

Use a large rigid board as a base for your volcano. You may build the model out of papier-mâché, clay, salt dough or other formable material. When building your model, be sure to add a small, wide-mouthed jar into the top of the cone. This will act as the magma chamber for your volcano. It is suggested that you erupt your volcano outside, or in a large, well-ventilated room.

- In addition to the volcano model you will need:
- 1 quart jar or measuring cup
- 4 tablespoons baking soda
- ¼ cup vinegar
- ¼ cup dishwashing liquid
- red food coloring
- ½ cup water

Mix all the ingredients except the baking soda in the jar. This will be enough solution for a few eruptions. Place the baking soda in the small jar in the top of the volcano model. Pour some of the mixture into the small jar. If there is no eruption right away, stir the contents with a stick. When you want to make a new eruption, place fresh baking soda in the small jar and add more solution. When the baking soda and the vinegar mix together they form a bubbly gas called carbon dioxide. The bubbles mix with the soap to form "lava." Real volcanoes work in almost the same way. When hot magma mixes with gas inside the core of the earth, it rushes to the surface in the form of hot lava.