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Activities

Where Lava Meets the Sea

Name: _____ Date: _____

Kilauea volcano in Hawaii is one of the planet's most active. The volcano has erupted for thousands of years. It's been spewing lava for the past thirty years. When the lava spills into the Pacific Ocean, it makes an awesome sight. See for yourself in this Planet Diary activity.

Directions

- Look at these recent views of Kilauea lava flows.
- Here's a cutaway view of the volcano's magma reservoir and lava tubes. Use the information to answer question 1 in the Workspace.
- Read this Planet Diary report Kilauea Lava Keeps Flowing to the Sea. Then answer questions 2 and 3.
- Pahoehoe is one type of lava found on Kilauea. `A`a (pronounced "ah-ah") is the other main type. Read the descriptions, then answer questions 4 and 5.
- Find out about the transition from pahoehoe to `a`a. Answer the last question.

Workspace

1. What are the two ways lava from Kilauea's eruptions reaches the sea?

2. What happens to lava that reaches the coast?

3. How did Kilauea get its shield-like shape?

4. Describe the appearance of pahoehoe lava.

5. Describe the appearance of `a`a lava.

6. What factors result in pahoehoe lava changing to `a`a lava?

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