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Dear Family,

Our class is studying how the surface of the Earth can be changed by forces such as earthquakes and glaciers. Your child has also learned the effects of oceans on land.

Your child is learning many new vocabulary words that describe the Earth’s changing surface. Help your child to make these words a part of his or her own vocabulary by using them when you talk together about land forms.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WORD</th>
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<tr>
<td>summarize</td>
<td>to make a short statement that communicates the main idea</td>
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<td>interpret</td>
<td>to explain or provide the meaning of something</td>
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<td>erosion</td>
<td>process in which materials are moved away from one place</td>
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<td>deposition</td>
<td>process in which materials are dropped in a new place</td>
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<td>weathering</td>
<td>a slow destructive process that breaks rock into smaller pieces</td>
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<td>earthquake</td>
<td>the shaking of Earth’s crust caused by sudden, shifting movements in the crust along a fault</td>
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<td>volcano</td>
<td>an opening in Earth’s crust through which steam, lava, and ashes erupt</td>
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<td>tsunami</td>
<td>a very large ocean wave that is large enough to destroy things when it crashes into a coastline</td>
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<td>landslide</td>
<td>downhill movement of large amounts of rock and soil</td>
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<tr>
<td>glacier</td>
<td>a large mass of ice that moves very slowly down a mountain</td>
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The following pages include activities that you and your child can do together. By participating in your child’s education, you will help to bring the learning home.
Vocabulary Practice
Fill in the missing letters to complete the vocabulary words.

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Science Activity
Label the Volcano

Look at this picture of an active volcano. Label the different parts of the volcano using the words in the box.

a. lava flowing down  
b. steep side of the volcano  
c. main vent or crater  
d. lava flows from a small vent

Once you have completed all the activities and experiments, complete this section, cut along the dotted line, and return it to your teacher.

Answers: 1. c, 2. b, 3. a, 4. d
Science Activity
These are satellite photos taken before and after the tsunami that hit Indonesia on December 26, 2004.

On a separate sheet of paper describe how the tsunami changed the surface of the Earth.

Fun Fact
Chances are good that somewhere in the world there are 20 volcanoes erupting right now.