



CUILCAGH  
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GEOPARK

## Violent Volcanoes Experiment

Did you know that a volcano is the general term given to an opening in the Earth's crust which allows lava, volcanic ash and gases to escape from a magma chamber beneath the surface?

The name volcano comes from the volcanic island of Vulcano, part of the Aeolian Islands of Italy. Vulcano was in turn named after Vulcan, the Roman god of fire.

Within the Geopark we have evidence of what is known as a Dykes. These were formed millions of years ago, when magma within a volcano was creeping through the crevasses but never quite reached the surface. The rock here is rich in iron, so is much heavier and can rust.

Fancy making your own volcanic eruption experiment?

Follow the simple steps below from the Geological Society and be ready to be amazed!



## You will need:

- x2 plastic cups
- x1 paper plate
- Roll of silver foil
- Glug of red food colouring
- 50ml vinegar
- 50ml washing up liquid
- x3 tablespoons of Bicarbonate of soda
- Lump of blue tack



## Method:



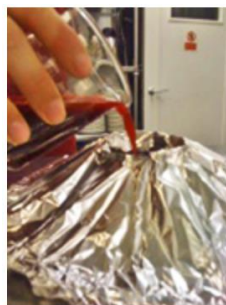
1. Attach the plastic cup to the plate using blue tack - you can use scissors to adjust the height of the cup, depending on how big you want your volcano to be!



2. Cover the plate and cup with a sheet of foil - don't forget to make a hole above the cup for the caldera.



3. Mix together roughly equal amounts of vinegar and washing up liquid, and add red food dye to give the experiment that molten lava look.



4. Pour the mixture into the cup, filling it to about halfway or slightly over (more if you want a really messy explosion!)



5. Pour in two or three teaspoons of bicarbonate of soda.



6. Stand back and watch your eruption unfold....