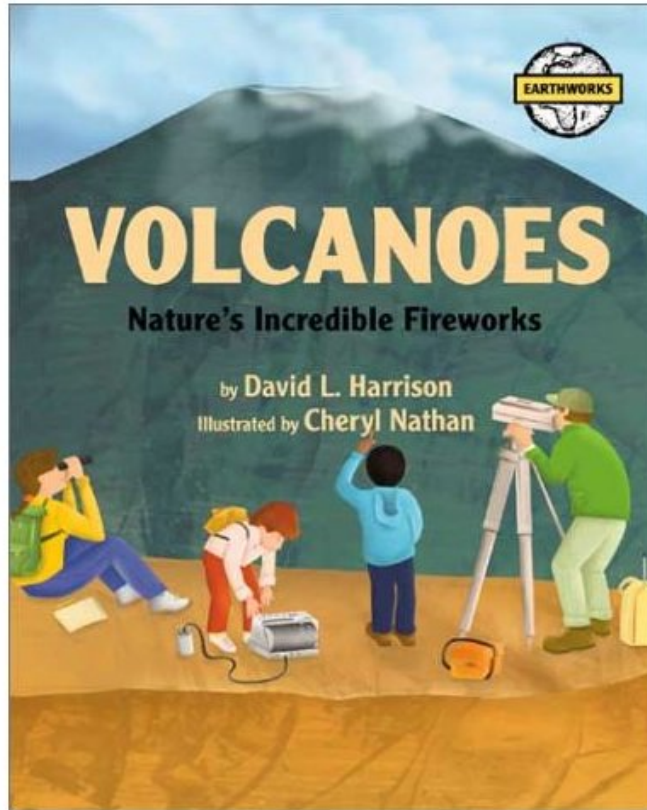


## Volcanoes



**Reading level:** Ages 4-8

**Hardcover:** 32 pages

**Publisher:** Boyd's Mills Press  
(August 2002)

**Language:** English

**ISBN-10:** 1563979969

### **VOLCANOES: Natures Incredible Fireworks**

#### **From School Library Journal**

Grade 2-3-In clear text and simple pictures, the author and illustrator offer a look at volcanoes and the forces at work deep beneath the earth. The book addresses basic questions such as how rocks get so hot that they melt and what causes a volcano. A colorful diagrammatic look at the four layers of the earth is followed by a fundamental explanation of plate tectonics. Passing mention is made of Mount St. Helens and the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in A.D. 79. An author's note offers slightly more in-depth material. It's unfortunate that there is no glossary, but the book is still a fine addition to libraries and a good jumping-off place for further exploration.

*Dona Ratterree, New York City Public Schools*

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#### **From [Booklist](#)**

Gr. 1-3. This colorful book from the Earthworks series captures the beauty and violence of volcanoes and explains the more fundamental, earth-shaking events underlying the dramatic pyrotechnics. Harrison, who also wrote *Rivers* [BKL Ap 1 02] and *Caves* (2001) for the same series, first describes volcanic eruptions, then explains why, where, and how they happen. The surprisingly graceful text is

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illuminated with dynamic artwork by Nathan, who illustrated *Rivers and Caves*. Here the expressive compositions, rich in color and subtle texture, serve as literal scenes of what's happening on the earth, and there are plenty of cross sections and diagrams of what's happening beneath the earth's crust. A good book to read aloud to primary-grade students. *Carolyn Phelan*  
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### **El Paso Independent School District (El Paso, TX)**

This volume in the Earthworks series does an excellent job of presenting introductory information about volcanoes to young students. Information is provided about parts of the earth, plate movement and historical volcano eruptions. The depth of information provided is ideal for the intended audience. The illustrations, done by Cheryl Nathan, accentuate the text nicely. Vivid paintings show just enough detail to entice young scientists and keep them coming back for more.

### **Omaha Public Schools Library Media Center Materials Selection Committee**

This book contains a brief, simple explanation of the formation, the location and the cause of volcanic eruptions. With very few words on the page, the author has included only a definition type description of the facts concerning volcanoes around the world. But for a primary reader and/or researcher the book gives ample information to answer a child's immediate and obvious questions about volcanoes. The author uses some descriptive phrases to put into a young student's consciousness about the force and danger of volcanoes, i.e.: "If too much gas is trapped inside, part of the mountain may blow off, hurling rocks heavier than elephants for miles," or "Several large pieces called tectonic plates cover the planet like a giant jigsaw puzzle." Certain historic volcanic eruptions are touched upon, that could lead a teacher to using an atlas or globe for actual location and comparison. I wrote "primary" as the grade level for this book, but I can see usefulness in an intermediate classroom as a unit topic springboard.

### **Tucson Unified School District Teaching & Learning Library Services**

I have read a number of volcano books lately and I think this one is a great one for elementary students. The text is spare, almost poetic, yet conveys a lot of excellent information. It is written with authority and was reviewed by a professor of geology.