

# Read. Think. Explain.

In trying to understand an article, it's important to read it carefully and thoughtfully, focusing on the words the author chose *and* thinking about the article's big ideas. In this activity, you'll answer a series of questions about Krakatoa and Mount St. Helens, and discuss how the two volcanic eruptions are alike and how they are different.

**Directions:** Answer the questions below, using information and details from the article to back up your ideas.

1. What were different reactions villagers had after Krakatoa's first blast? What do you think you would have done?

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2. On Krakatoa, one disaster caused another one to happen. What were the two disasters?

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3. Why did scientists suspect that something was going to occur at Mount St. Helens?

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4. What details show how powerful the blast at Mount St. Helens was?

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5. Why were so many more people killed by Krakatoa's explosion than by Mount St. Helens's?

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