

What was the Pompeii disaster?





-Pompeii is an enormous eruption by Mount Vesuvius that buried and preserved the city in hardened ash

Before

- Feb 5 62 A.D.
- 7.5 magnitude earthquake
- Pompeii and Herculaneum suffered severe damage.
- Tsunami followed the earthquake
- Slow reconstruction of the city
- Earthquake is a warning for the eruption
- Common seismic activity in Pompeii after the earthquake, especially a few days before the eruption
- Tear in the African plate is a factor of the disaster



During



Date of Eruption: August 79 A.D.

When the debris fell back to the ground, it made living conditions for the citizens who stayed in Pompeii worse

Then, a surge of poison gas and pulverized rock buried the city and its people under millions of tons of ash.

Pompeii was abandoned.

After

- Victims, buildings, animals, and more, are preserved in hardened ash.
- Pompeii was found by explorers in 1748
- It looked exactly the same as it did 2000 years ago





What if Mount Vesuvius erupted today?

-Mt Vesuvius is still active today.

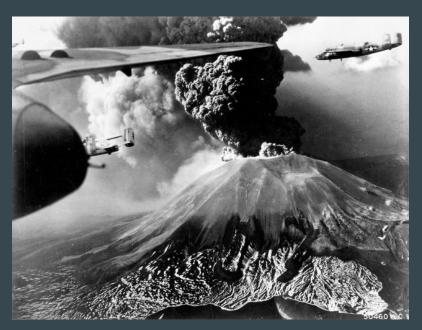
-Naples, a city of 3 million people, is only 12 km away from the volcano.

-There lives about 600,000 people in the red zone

Pompeii (5 on the explosivity index) was 10 times more deadly than Vesuvius' last MAJOR eruption, (a 4 on the index)

- If the volcano erupted today, the damage would depend on how big the eruption is.

-An euption at a 4 or a 5 might kill more than ten thousand people and cost more than \$20 billion. This will negatively impact Italy's citizens, costing them as much as the eruption will cost the government. Depending on the direction of the wind, Pompeii and Naples will be covered in meters of ash.



Mt Vesuvius' most recent eruption (1944)

Connections to the spheres

- When the volcanic eruption occurred all the volcanic ash/debris (geosphere)
 entered the atmosphere.
- volcanic ash (geosphere) covered all plants (biosphere)
- Volcanic ash (geosphere) killed humans (biosphere)
- The volcanic ash (geosphere) entered the Mediterranean Sea (hydrosphere).
- Lava from the volcano (geosphere) caused damage to the city and its surroundings (biosphere).
- After the eruption (geosphere), many tsunamis (hydrosphere) and earthquakes (geosphere) occurred in the area
- The eruption (geosphere) also affected neighbouring cities close to Pompeii (biosphere)

Connections (continued)

- The biggest theory of why the eruption happened is a tear in the African plate which caused a series of reactions to occur.
- Before the eruption Pompeii had very fertile soil and afterwards, due to all the harmful gases (atmosphere) and debris (geosphere/biosphere) it was no longer fertile.
- Pompeii was an important place for trade (biosphere) and since the eruption (geosphere) the trade stopped
- The gases (atmosphere) from the eruption, spread all over Italy and affected the humans there (biosphere)
- Pompeii, as well as the nearby cities to it, often experienced seismic activity
 (geosphere) and when the eruption happened they was no signal for the people(
 biosphere) to find safety.

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