

- b) Does the USGS map show volcanoes that have not erupted during the last 10,000 years?
- c) Does the USGS map show eruptions after 1993, or new volcanoes?
- d) Does the USGS map show any volcanoes associated with the red lines in the ocean basins?
- e) What information does the map give about the size or hazard of the volcanoes?
- f) Suppose that tomorrow a volcano forms somewhere in the United States. Could it form in or near your state? Support your answer with evidence from this activity.
- g) What are some limitations of the evidence you used?



## Reflecting on the Activity and the Challenge

By looking at a world map of recent volcanic activity you found patterns in the data. This helped you to make inferences about the possible location of the next volcanic eruption in the United States. The data you looked

at are incomplete. This may limit the conclusions you can draw. However, you now have some knowledge that will help you decide where in the U.S. you might “stage” a volcanic eruption.

### Digging Deeper

#### THE GLOBAL DISTRIBUTION OF VOLCANOES

##### Volcanoes beneath the Sea

The USGS map *This Dynamic Planet* shows historical volcanic activity throughout the world. It tells a story about how our dynamic planet releases its internal storehouse of energy. No single source of data tells the whole story, but a map is a great place to begin.

On average, about 60 of Earth’s 550 historically active volcanoes erupt each year. Geologists have long known that volcanoes are abundant along the edges of certain continents. The presence of volcanic rocks on the floors of all ocean basins indicates that volcanoes are far more abundant under water than on land.

