



Read this personal story written by **farmer Zac**. He explains what happened when the **Eyjafjallajokull** volcano in Iceland erupted.



This is my farm with the ash cloud in the background.



The sky turned black, ash and floods were everywhere.



On the 19th of April 2010, at 2am in the morning, the phone rang. I knew it would be about the volcano because I saw smoke from it yesterday afternoon and heard some rumbling. The lady on the phone said "You have 20 minutes to evacuate your farm." I woke my wife and two children. We gathered a few important belongings and drove to the nearest shelter. Our dairy cows were still out in the field. Around 700 people joined us in the shelter. We were all very worried, listening to the rumbling sounds from the volcano. We could smell a rotten egg smell. It was horrible. I was just praying my farm would be safe and still standing after this eruption.

When I woke up the next morning I could see the floods of water running down the side of the volcano. The lava and hot rocks had melted the ice on the volcano and water was rushing down. I could also see the huge ash cloud. It looked like a gigantic mushroom, the biggest thing I have ever seen.

Daytime became night. The cloud was so thick with ash and gas, it acted like a blanket in the sky. The sun's light was blocked. My farm was definitely covered.

The ash settled on the roads, houses and buildings. It was hard to see anything and it made me cough. The cloud was so thick no planes were allowed to fly.

We couldn't go back to our farm for days. We were lucky though. It hadn't flooded on our side of the volcano, so our farm was safe. Other people lost their homes, farms and their animals. The floods washed away roads so people couldn't get back to their farms for weeks.



Draw a picture of **Eyjafjallajokull** volcano erupting.
Can you write two facts about what happened when it erupted?

Picture

Fact

Fact

How were people affected by the eruption?



Can you complete these sentences to explain what happened when **Eyjafjallajokull** volcano erupted.
Can you also answer the questions? What are your thoughts?

1. Eyjafjallajokull erupted on the _____ .
2. The lady on the phone said _____ .
3. Farmer Zac was praying that _____ .
4. When Farmer Zac woke he saw _____ .
5. The lava and hot rocks _____ .
6. The ash cloud was so thick it _____ .
7. People lost their _____ .

What did the eruption look like?

How did farmer Zac feel when he got the phone call?

How did farmer Zac feel when he knew his farm was safe?



Imagine you are a farmer living near an active volcano. Use this picture sequence to write your own recount of the volcano erupting near you. What would you **see**, **hear**, **do**, and **feel**? Write about what you think would happen after the volcano has erupted.

1



2



3



4



5



6





Volcano Survival Guide



Be aware of the **hazards** that can come with an eruption: the flying debris, hot gases, lava flows, potential for explosion, mudslides, avalanches and geothermal areas. Discuss with your family how to stay away from these hazards.

Prepare **provisions**, water, food, blankets and medical supplies if you live around a volcano *before* anything happens.

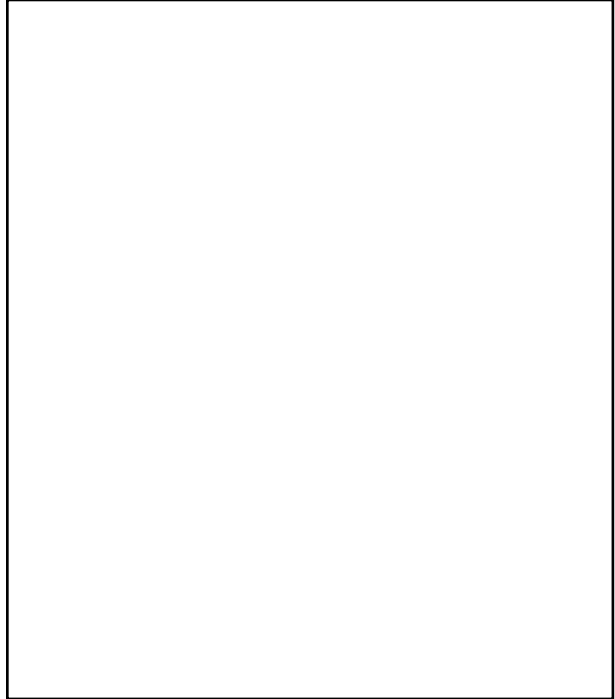
Save **water** in your bath, basin and containers as supplies may become contaminated after the eruption.

Stay **indoors** as much as possible with your pets. Keep windows and doors closed. Wear face masks and goggles when you go outside to protect your lungs and eyes. Don't go sight-seeing and investigate what has happened as it is dangerous.

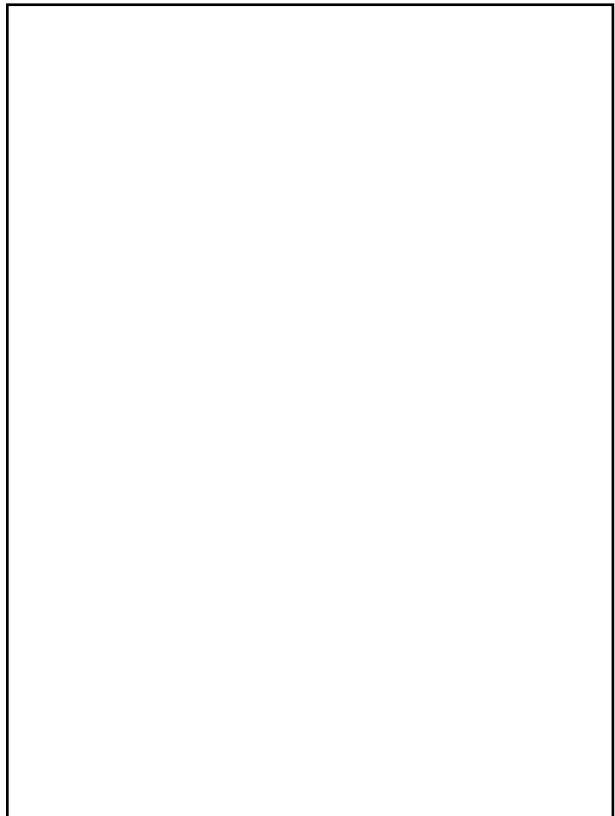
Clear off the **ash** from your **gutters** and **roof** to stop the roof from collapsing under the weight. When you return inside take off your clothes to keep the ash from spreading into your home.

If you have to leave the house try to avoid the volcanic hazards. Avoid **driving** in low-lying areas. Drive slowly to avoid stirring up the ash so you can still see clearly. Watch out for rock falls near cliffs.

Most importantly have a **disaster plan**. Know how you will evacuate. Listen to the local authority's requests and follow them. Have a supplies kit ready and a bag packed with some clothes to keep your skin covered.



How to survive a volcanic eruption





Can you complete these sentences to explain what happened when **Eyjafjallajokull** volcano erupted.
Can you also answer the questions? What are your thoughts?

19TH APRIL 2010

1. Eyjafjallajokull erupted on the _____ .

2. The lady on the phone said **YOU HAVE 20 MINUTES TO EVACUATE YOUR FARM.** _____ .

3. Farmer Zac was praying that **HIS FARM WOULD BE SAFE AND STILL STANDING AFTER THE ERUPTION.** _____ .

4. When Farmer Zac woke he saw **WATER RUNNING DOWN THE VOLCANO AND A HUGE ASH CLOUD.** _____ .

5. The lava and hot rocks **HAD MELTED THE ICE ON THE VOLCANO.** _____ .

6. The ash cloud was so thick it **ACTED LIKE A BLANKET IN THE SKY AND BLOCKED THE SUN.** _____ .

7. People lost their **HOMES, FARMS AND ANIMALS.** _____ .

What did the eruption look like?

IT LOOKED LIKE A GIGANTIC MUSHROOM.

How did farmer Zac feel when he got the phone call?

WORRIED

How did farmer Zac feel when he knew his farm was safe?

LUCKY