The Eruption of the
Eyjafjallajökull
Volcano!!

Located on the Island of Iceland In the Atlantic Ocean

Remember these headings in the News?

Started:
April 14th, 2010

Ended:
June 23rd, 2010
First, find Iceland on the map.

What plate boundary goes through Iceland? (convergent or divergent?)

Why are there volcanoes in Iceland?
Where is the Eyjafjallajökull volcano?

Iceland
How far did the volcanic ash cloud from the eruption travel?
First the volcano erupted as a “Strombolian” eruption – meaning that it ejected lots of hot cinders and lava bombs a few hundreds of meters into the air! (end of March - beg. of April)
Then the volcano erupted EXPLOSIVELY!!
These photographs were taken from space of the volcano and the ash cloud.
Volcanic eruption cloud rises above clouds

Those are farm houses!!
The white clouds are steam clouds, and the dark clouds are volcanic ash clouds, made up of volcanic glass, bits of rock, and gases.

Regular clouds

Steam clouds = formed from melting and evaporating water from a glacier ice on the volcano!

volcanic ash = made up of tiny bits of exploded rock and volcanic glass
Ash clouds from the eruption. The ash is falling out and will eventually reach the ground.
The Eyjafjallajökull volcano has a glacier on top of it.
Part of the glacier melted due to the heat of the eruption!

- glacier
- a mixture of melt water & ash from the volcano
Melt water and volcanic ash flowed downstream.

Scientists call the mixture of water and volcanic ash a “Lahar”.
When this ash and water mixture flowed downstream it caused flooding!
How do you think volcanic eruptions can affect people?
World Economic Influence of Eruptions
How did the volcanic eruption affect air travel in particular?

What factors might influence where and how far the ash travels?