

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

Capulin Mountain

Capulin Mountain is a cinder cone in northeastern New Mexico. The volcano reaches 400 meters (1300 feet) above the surrounding plain. The center of the crater at the top of Capulin Mountain is about 150 meters (500 feet) below the lowest point on the rim. The volcano was last active about 62,000 years ago.

1. Why does the road around Capulin Mountain take such a long route to the top?

2. Why does the road end at E17 and not some other point on the rim? _____

3. The sides of the volcano are covered in vegetation. What does this tell you about the age of Capulin Mountain? _____

4. The vegetation visible in the image seems to be clustered around the mountain and the lava flows. Why does it grow there and not elsewhere in this area? _____

5. How does the size of Capulin Mountain compare to the volcano at Crater Lake?

6. Why is there no lake in the crater at the top of Capulin Mountain? _____

(Continued...)

7. The lava flows visible at L13 flowed from Capulin Mountain, but there is no evidence of lava flowing out of the volcano. What is one possible explanation for this? _____

8. What kind of rocks probably compose the mesa at D2 (volcanic, sedimentary, or metamorphic)? How can you tell? _____

