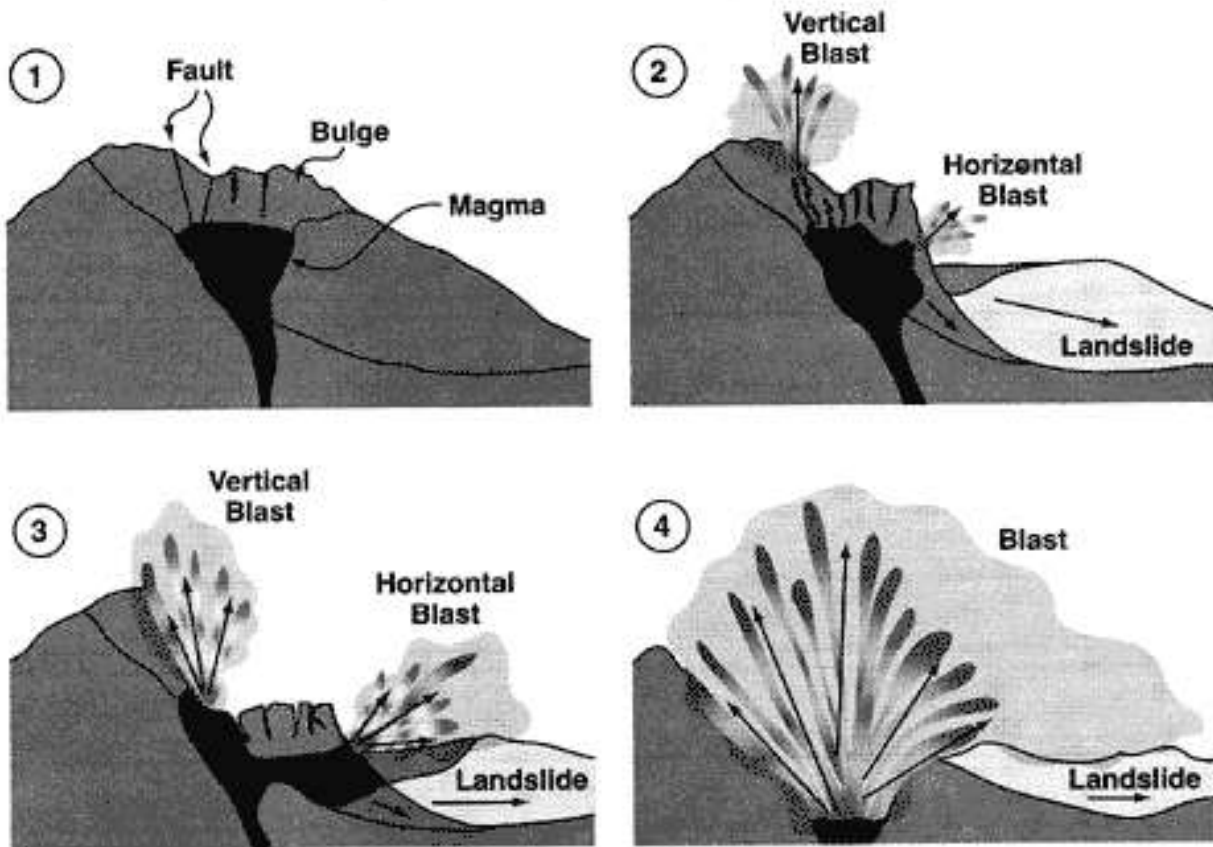
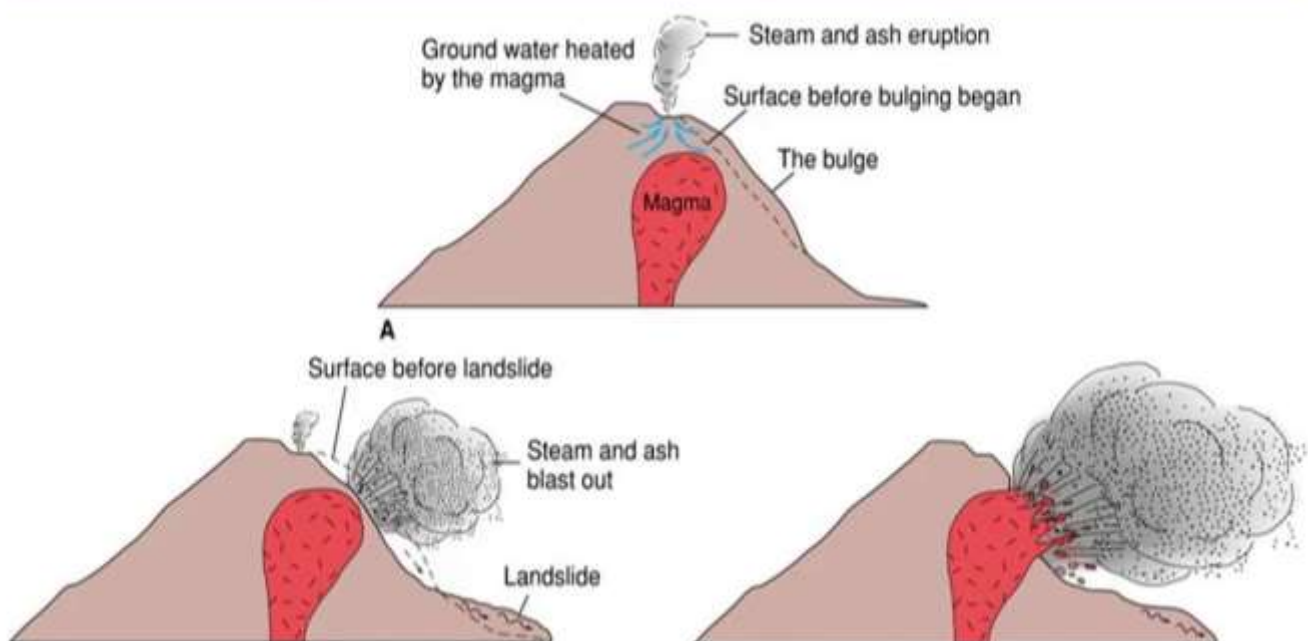


May 1980 Mt. St. Helens Eruption



If you choose the diagrams above, you can add some colour to create clearer diagrams.

Mount St. Helens Eruption Sequence



May 18th, 1980

At 8:32 a.m. an earthquake signaled the beginning of Mount St. Helens' eruption.

- 1** Magma rising inside the mountain over a period of weeks created a bulge on the northside. At 8:32 a.m., a 5.1 magnitude earthquake broke the bulge loose, causing the northside to disolve into a massive avalanche.
- 2** The avalanche released built up pressure from magmatic gases, resulting in a northern lateral explosion. The blast created a 17-18 mile fan-shaped path of destruction.

