

## **Earthquakes in California.**

### **Mount St. Helens Ready to Erupt Again?**

### **Flood Watch in Ohio Valley**

### **Florida Reels from Storm Damage**

Natural disasters are in the news! Recommend books about events ripped from the headlines and seen on TV. Use *Ravenscourt Books* with struggling readers to extend learning about current events or for cross-curricular reading in science.

Magma is again moving under the crust of Mount St. Helens. *The Mountain Is On Fire!* describes the Mount Vesuvius eruption that destroyed Pompeii in A.D. 79 and the eruption of Mount St. Helens in 1980. Use *The Mountain Is On Fire!*, from The Unexpected series, to supplement the study of volcanoes and to build on current-events discussions.

*Atlantis: Land of Mystery*, another book in The Unexpected series, has natural disasters at the heart of the mystery. Did Atlantis exist? If it did, what happened to Atlantis? One of the most popular theories is that horrific earthquakes and volcanic eruptions caused Atlantis to sink into the ocean. (The Unexpected series of *Ravenscourt Books* has a second-grade reading level.)

As storms cause flooding throughout the United States, *Walls of Water* becomes a timely book. *Walls of Water* tells about the Johnstown Flood of 1889 and the Great Flood of 1993. This book in the Overcoming Adversities series also explains the causes of floods, describes the environmental impact of floods, and tells how some floods can be prevented. Have middle-school students read *Walls of Water* to extend the science curriculum and to relate current events to historical ones. (The Overcoming Adversity series of *Ravenscourt Books* has a third-grade reading level.)

For current science information, try these Web sites.

- National Geographic at <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/>
- National Science Foundation at <http://www.nsf.gov/>
- Smithsonian Institution Volcano Project at <http://www.volcano.si.edu/index.cfm>