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ROBLOX



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MONDAY Morning

"Aaaand this part of the volcano," Mr. Rockface droned, "is called . . . anyone?"

My eyes drooped.

Heavy eyelids.

Sleep so close . . .

"BRI BUBTBR?"

Mr. Rockface said.



My head whipped up to attention.

"Er . . . ah . . . um, could you repeat . . . " I mumbled as I saw a frown form on Mr. Rockface's block face.

Jez [[]][[][[] loudly. Cough, "Magma chamber," cough, cough.

"Magma chamber?" I ventured.

"Correct," Mr. Rockface said, his frown disappearing.

I turned to Jez, one of my best friends, who was sitting to my right, and mouthed, "Thanks, bruh." She'd just saved my BLOCKY
BUTT.

"Only Mr. Rockface could make something as cool as volcanoes this boring," my other best friend, Zeke, whispered to me from his seat to my left.

I nodded. He was totally right.

DING, DING, DING!

Finally!

"Before you go, avatars, I have some exciting news," Mr. Rockface said in a flat voice. He even made exciting announcements sound boring. "This Wednesday, we are going on a FIELD TRIP."

I sat up straighter. That sounded cool. Going on a field trip was usually more fun than sitting in a classroom.

"We are going to Mount Blockus

to see our volcano studies in action," he said.

Wait, WHAT?!

The class erupted into cheers of delight, high fives, and fist bumps.

"A VOLCANO?!" Zeke shrieked. "IRL?!"

"Hang on, hang on," a little voice said from the front of the room.

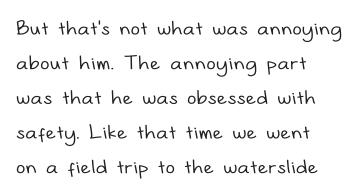
The whole class **GROANED**.

"Yes, GABE?" Mr. Rockface

said, rolling his eyes. Even the teacher was annoyed by Gabe.

Gabe was the **TERDIEST** avatar ever.
He was, like, two
years younger

than us but was in our grade because he's a brainiac.



park for Math class. We were supposed to time how long it took to get from the top of the slide to the bottom. But Gabe pointed out to the teachers that we hadn't done a proper "risk assessment plan" (whatever that meant!) and so we shouldn't be allowed to actually go on the waterslides. The teachers agreed and we spent the entire field trip watching other avatars have an awesome time.

LAME!

"Have you properly assessed the

risks of this field trip, as well as completed a thorough report on the dangers we may encounter?"

Gabe asked.

"Yes, Gabe," Mr. Rockface said.

"This volcano is classified as **EXTIPLT**, which means the risks are minimal."

"What's that mean?" I asked.

Mr. Rockface rolled his eyes again.

"Ari, if you had been listening to the lesson you would know that 'dormant' means it may erupt again, but 'extinct' means it won't."

Everyone slumped down, deflated, except for Gabe, who looked happy with the news.

"So, it's just, like, a mountain?
No lava?" someone from the back
of the classroom said.

"That's right. But there will be a lot of interesting rocks to look at," Mr. Rockface said.

NCHi

"" Cheered Gabe.

"Permission slips have been emailed

to your parents and I would like you to remind them to fill in the form before the field trip."

Me and my whole class packed up our books and trudged out the door, disappointed that our volcano field trip was now just a walk around a mountain, picking up rocks.

BOOORRRIIIIIING!

We walked through the school toward our lockers.

"Our Geography field trip sounds cool," Jez said to Zeke and me,

stacking her books into her locker.

Jez was, like, the smartest avatar I'd ever met. If anyone was going to get excited about analyzing rocks, it would be her. Not as excited as she might be over HACKING into a top secret computer system, but a close second. Even though she was a total tech whiz, she wasn't an annoying **TERD** like Gabe, thank goodness.

"Jez, it's *rocks*," Zeke whined.

"Some of those rocks would have

ERUPTION thousands of years ago. Looking at them is like traveling back in time!" she said with wide eyes.

Zeke and I exchanged looks.

"Time travel?" Zeke said, shaking his head. "A—Completely impossible, and B—nowhere near as cool."

"Well, we may not be able to see lava IRL, but it's given me an idea," Jez said. "Who's free this afternoon for some THE FLOOR IS LAVA time?"

My eyes lit up. The Floor Is Lava was one of our favorite games to play at Zeke's house. Zeke had the coolest house because his dad was an DBBY designer and he always had prototypes in his backyard. The idea of the game was that you had to get from one place to another without touching the ground.

"What do you think?" I asked Zeke hopefully.

"Yeah, I'm free, sounds awesome!" he said, putting his hands up to high-five us both. "And we can

even tell my parents that it's homework because it's a game about lava!"

We all LAUGHED.

It was going to be EPIC!