

## **Card games, giant models and fireworks: finding the fun in a serious message**

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The future of volcanic risk reduction lies not with the attendees of Cities on Volcanoes 9 but with the children with whom we interact. Through the STREVA Project we have engaged with children of many ages. This was in our 'home' countries and, by collaborating with our project partners, in the volcanic regions in which we work. This presentation will describe some of these ideas and experiences. We focused on: the important relationship between topography and volcanic hazards; the variability of volcanic behavior; and keeping the community memory of past volcanic experiences 'live'. Our giant models of Soufrière, St. Vincent and Merapi demonstrated the relationship between location, flow and hazard. We used a variety of hands-on experiments to demonstrate the controls on sub-surface behavior. A custom-made soundtrack of eruptive behavior (and occasional fireworks!) enabled us to discuss volcano monitoring and the role it plays in providing warnings. We have found it helpful to tailor our work to the established school curriculum and engaged with older children through social media. To develop Volcanoes Top Trumps we worked with an established card game company ('Top Trumps' owned by Winning Moves) to have it distributed and available worldwide. We have now sold > 14,000 packs and are using the profits we have generated to sponsor further risk reduction activities in volcanic settings. When working with children who may have been directly or indirectly affected by volcanic activity it is important to pay attention to the ethical implications of describing or remembering volcanic activity. However, engaging with this type of work is an extraordinary opportunity to not only engage children but to learn from them about how they view



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*'Understanding volcanoes and society: the key for risk mitigation'*

their risk environment. It has also encouraged us to think about interdisciplinary approaches to tackling future research on volcanic risk. Risk Reduction  
Pokemon Go, anyone?