



# VESUVIUS

## Mission Overview

Krafft Island, with its fertile volcanic soil and crystal blue bays, is a luxury destination for the rich and the powerful. Everyone loves it—except for one man. Dr. Ash Tephra, the world’s most renowned volcanologist, has long been outspoken against settlements on the island.

Using his own special research methods known as “underground volcanology,” Dr. Tephra has warned the government that a massive eruption is about to occur and that the island must be evacuated! Fellow volcanologists using more traditional methods, however, do not agree.

A similar situation occurred two years ago. Dr. Tephra predicted an eruption of massive proportions and the island was evacuated, but the eruption never occurred. Angry citizens lodged complaints against the government for economic loss. Dr. Tephra was humiliated and his reputation took a severe hit, but now he is making the same prediction: an eruption is imminent!

The government is concerned for its citizens’ safety, but even so it does not want a needless evacuation. To clear matters up the government has called upon the Infinity Knights—the renowned protectors of peace and justice throughout the universe—to help. They must travel beneath the surface of Krafft Island, explore its volcanic conduits, and determine whether an evacuation is necessary—before it’s too late!

## Standards-Based Curriculum

Volcanos

Scientific measurement and interpretation

Plate tectonics

Emergency preparedness

Subterranean exploration

Geology

Scientific predictions

Government responsibilities

## Higher Order Thinking

How much stock should be put into scientific predictions?

When should safety concerns be allowed to disrupt daily life?

What is the value of reputation?

What natural characteristics are required for human settlements?

How can man and nature coexist?