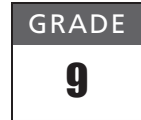


DISTRICT ASSESSMENT OF READING TEAM (DART)
ORAL READING



FALL

Surtsey – Birth of an Island (Deborah T. Sycamore)

Name: _____ Date: _____

On Surtsey, the primary rock type is basalt (buh-SAWLT), which is formed from runny lava. Typically, it's a very fine-grained rock, due to the rapid cooling process. Gas bubbles that are often trapped in the basalt as it cools form tiny air pockets—just like a sponge. Pillow lava is commonly found on Surtsey. This form of rock develops when molten basalt separates into clumps and rolls around underwater on the ocean floor. As the lava cools, these clumps build upon one another and cool down from the outside to the inside, just as a toasted marshmallow does. Today, Canadian scientists are studying basalt samples from Surtsey to find out more about what happens inside volcanoes.

Halting Careful Confident Fluent Expressive