

Islands



by Kimberly M. Hutmacher
Gail Saunders-Smith, PhD, Consulting Editor





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Note to Parents and Teachers

The Natural Wonders series supports national geography standards related to the physical and human characteristics of places. This book describes and illustrates islands. The images support early readers in understanding the text. The repetition of words and phrases helps early readers learn new words. This book also introduces early readers to subject-specific vocabulary words, which are defined in the Glossary section. Early readers may need assistance to read some words and to use the Table of Contents, Glossary, Read More, Internet Sites, and Index sections of the book.

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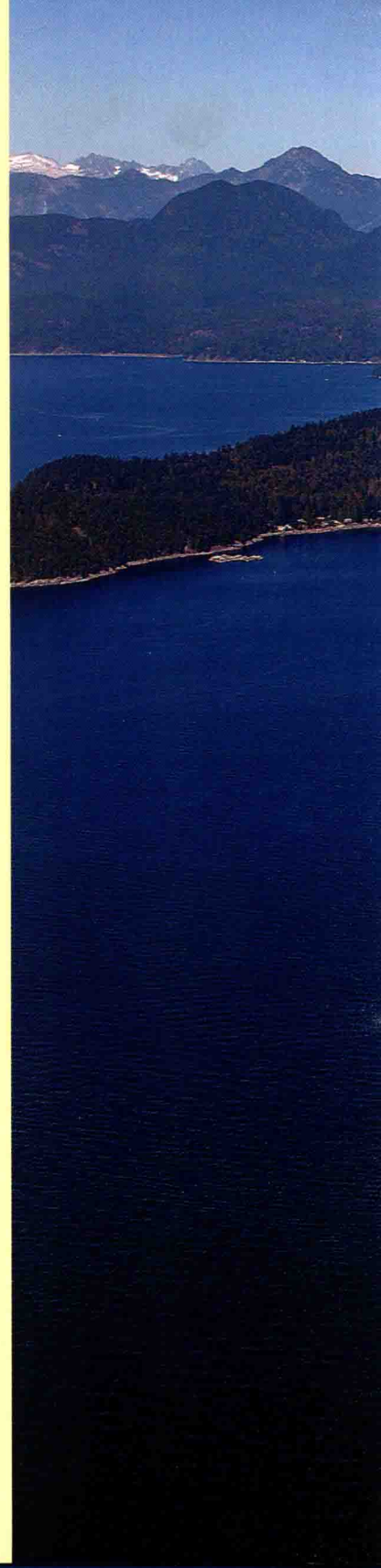
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An Island Forms

Long ago, the sea level rose.
Water filled low spots on land.
Pieces of land were separated
from the mainland by water.
Continental islands were born.





Kinds of Islands

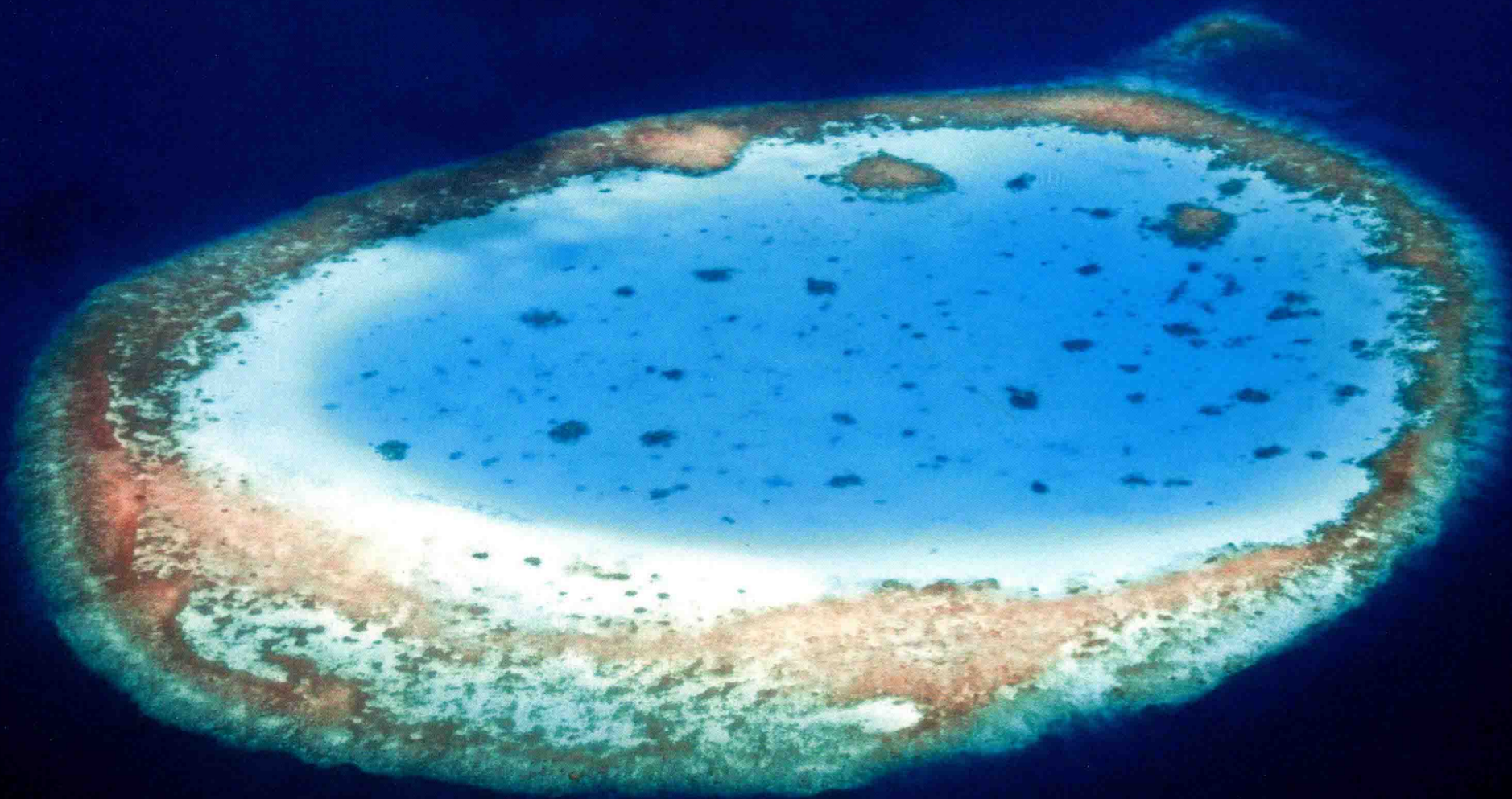
Continental islands were part of continents. But oceanic islands form in the middle of the ocean. Underwater volcanoes pile up lava on the ocean floor.



Coral reefs form coral islands.

Sometimes the sea level drops or
land under the reef rises.

Coral that breaks the water's
surface forms an island.



Barrier islands form near
the shores of continents.

Wind and water pile up sand
from the ocean floor.



Island Life

Life on continental islands
is often like the mainland.
Similar plants and animals
lived there when water cut off
the mainland.

