

Hot ideas, cool sports!



Volcano surfing

This is like snowboarding, but without the snow. You climb to the top of a volcano and then slide down it on a surfboard! Some people stand, but I found it easier to sit on the board. I'm glad I was wearing goggles because it was very dusty. It was amazing, but it was also scary because I went so fast – some people travel at 80 km an hour! Don't do what I did, though. While I was surfing, I shouted to my friend, and I got a mouthful of dust and stones!

Ice swimming

In Russia, this is a popular winter sport. They say it's a great way to stay healthy. To find out, in December I went swimming with the Swimming Club on Brighton Beach. The sea wasn't frozen, but it felt icy! It was so cold, I screamed when I got into the water! I only stayed in the sea for about five minutes. But afterwards, while we were drinking hot chocolate in a café, I felt amazing – and I didn't get a cold for the rest of the winter!



Reading

1 Read and listen. Which activity sounds more dangerous?

2 Match the words with the definitions.

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|------------|---|
| 1 slide | a) glasses to protect the eyes |
| 2 goggles | b) when there are a lot of very fine, dry particles of dirt |
| 3 dusty | c) when water gets very cold and becomes solid |
| 4 mouthful | d) to move continuously across a flat surface |
| 5 frozen | e) a lot of food, or any material, in your mouth |

3 Read the text again. Write VS (volcano surfing) or IS (ice swimming).

- You need special equipment to do this sport. _____
- You feel good after doing this sport. _____
- It's better to keep your mouth closed while doing this sport. _____

- This sport is similar to another sport. _____
- You don't feel very good while doing this sport. _____
- This sport makes you feel afraid. _____

4 Answer the questions. Write complete sentences.

- How do volcano surfers get to the top of the volcano?

- In what two different ways can you surf down a volcano?

- What's the highest speed volcano surfers can travel at?

- In what country is ice swimming common?

- Who did the writer go swimming with?

- How long did the writer swim for?
