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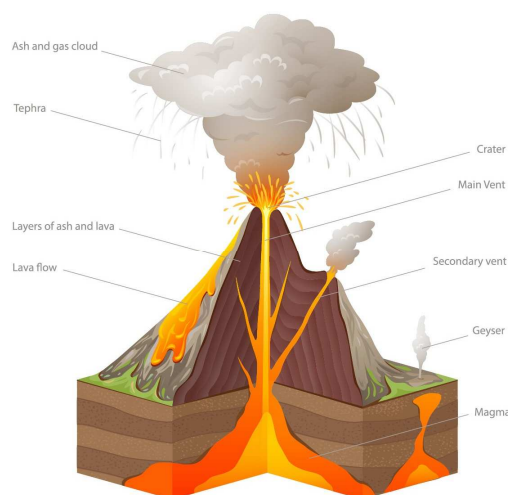
# Volcanoes

Volcanoes are openings on the Earth's surface, usually in the form of a mountain. The openings allow extremely hot rock from inside the earth to be released as magma, along with gases and ash.

Magma is melted rock. Rock is under extreme pressure deep inside the earth which causes the rock to heat up to very high temperatures and melt into magma. The extreme pressure forces the magma up to the surface through the cracks of a volcano. During volcanic eruptions deadly gases and ash are also released into the air.



Volcanic eruptions are one of the most powerful forces of nature on Earth. The eruptions can destroy entire towns or create new islands in the ocean. There are about 1,500 active volcanoes on the Earth.



## Answer the Questions

1. What are volcanoes?

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2. What do volcanoes release during an eruption?

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3. Why does the rock melt deep in the earth?

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4. How many active volcanoes are there on earth?

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