

# Inside a Volcano

Read the paragraph below to label the volcano diagram on the next page

Volcanoes are cracks in the Earth's surface where liquid molten rocks, ash and gas can escape. We call this liquid rock magma when it is underground and **lava** when it's on the surface. All this magma is stored deep underground in a huge **magma chamber**. The magma moves up to the surface in something called a **vent**, and big volcanoes will have a main vent and lots of smaller, **secondary vents**. Where the main vent reaches the surface there is usually a **crater** created by the force of the escaping

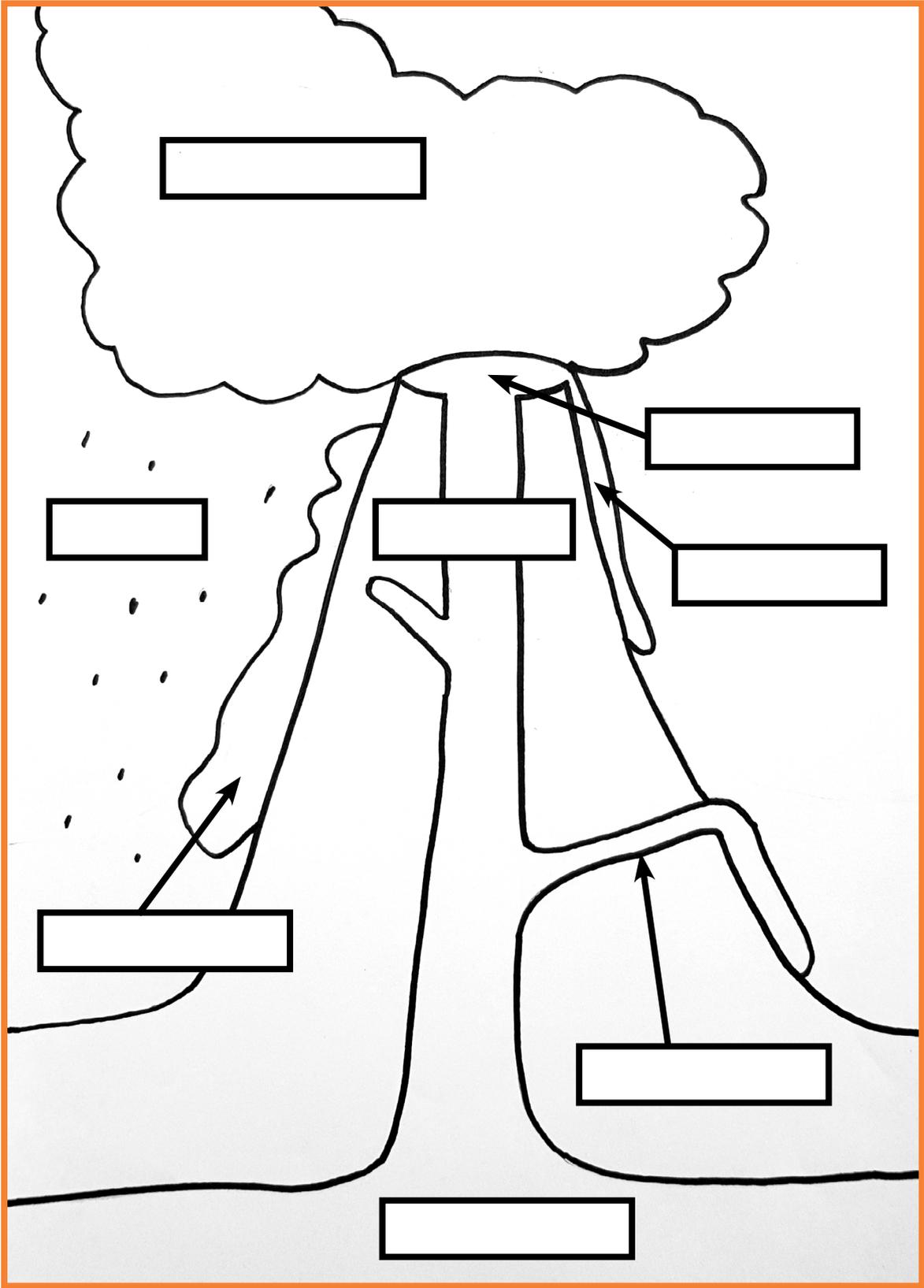


lava and gas. When lava is escaping a volcano we call this an eruption and some volcanoes erupt nearly constantly while others are quiet for years before violently exploding. As well as lava, many volcanoes have huge **ash clouds** which rise up above the volcano. This **ash**

can travel hundreds of miles and rain down on the surrounding area.

Sometimes parts of the volcano can collapse and a huge river of hot rocks, ash, gas and lava will flow down the side of the volcano in something called a **pyroclastic flow**.





Word Bank

ash cloud

vent

lava

secondary vent

magma chamber

ash

crater

You can also colour in your volcano too!

