

LEVELED BOOK • N

Hawaii Volcanoes National Park

MULTI
LEVEL
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Hawai‘i Volcanoes National Park



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Focus Question

What can you see at Hawaii Volcanoes
National Park?

Words to Know

active
erupted
lava

national park
native
spewing

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Kilauea and Mauna Loa are two famous volcanoes found in the park.

A Volcano Wonderland

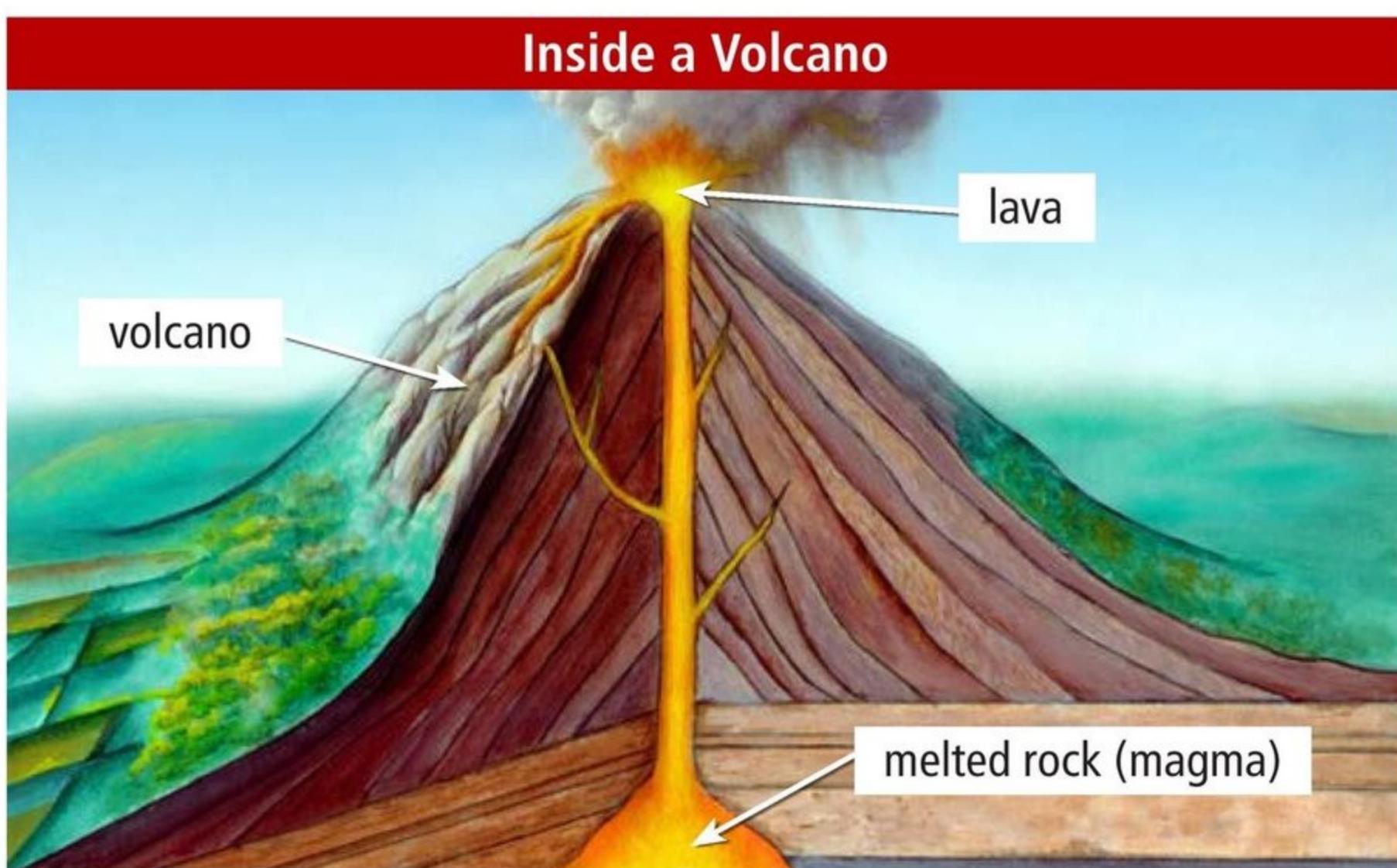
Every day on the island of Hawaii, red-hot **lava** seeps from a volcano on the edge of the ocean. When the lava cools, it turns into solid rock and makes the island a little bigger. This volcano, called Kilauea (kee-luh-WAY-uh), is part of Hawaii Volcanoes National Park.

More than one million people visit Hawaii Volcanoes National Park each year. National parks are areas of special, protected land.

Volcanoes Form a Park

A volcano begins when melted rock from deep inside Earth comes out through a crack in Earth's surface. When it reaches the surface, it cools into solid rock. The rock builds up over time. The rock may form a mountain or even an island. This is how the Hawaiian Islands formed.

Two of the world's most amazing volcanoes are found in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park.



One volcano is Kilauea, whose name means “spewing” in Hawaiian. It’s one of the most **active** volcanoes in the world. Kilauea has been spewing out rivers of thick lava almost continuously since 1983.

Scientists think that Kilauea began forming between 300,000 and 600,000 years ago. They think it probably appeared as an island 50,000 to 100,000 years ago.



A river of lava flows from Kilauea.



Observers view a fiery lake on Kilauea in this 1924 painting.

In 1790, at least eighty people were killed when Kilauea **erupted**. Then, in 1924, more eruptions at Kilauea threw huge rocks around the area. Some were as heavy as 8 tons (7,258 kg).



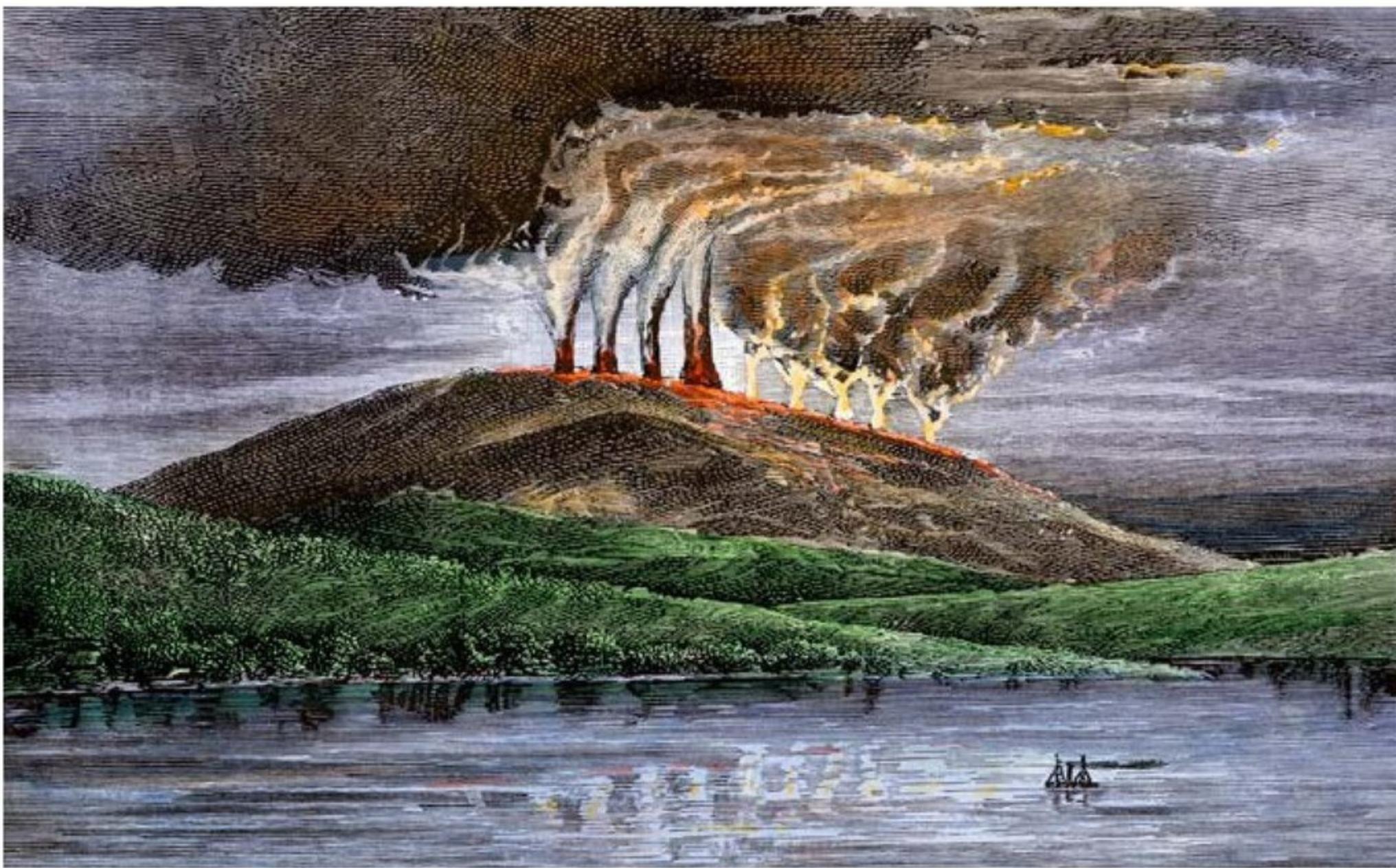
Leaping Lava

In 1959, Kilauea sent a stream of lava 1,900 feet (579 m) into the air—about twice the height of the Eiffel Tower!

Nearby is another volcano called Mauna Loa (MOU-nuh LOH-uh), whose name means “long mountain” in Hawaiian. It is one of the biggest mountains on Earth. From its base far beneath the ocean, Mauna Loa is more than 10 miles (16 km) high.



A snowcapped Mauna Loa, one of the largest volcanoes on Earth, is seen far away.



A picture from the 1870s shows the eruption of Mauna Loa as viewed from the ocean.

Mauna Loa formed in much the same way as Kilauea. It is giant, stretching nearly 75 miles (121 km) across and about 13,680 feet (4,170 m) above sea level. This volcano covers half the island of Hawaii.

Mauna Loa has erupted dozens of times since 1843. In 1868, an eruption caused earthquakes and lava flows that lasted four days and destroyed nearly forty buildings.



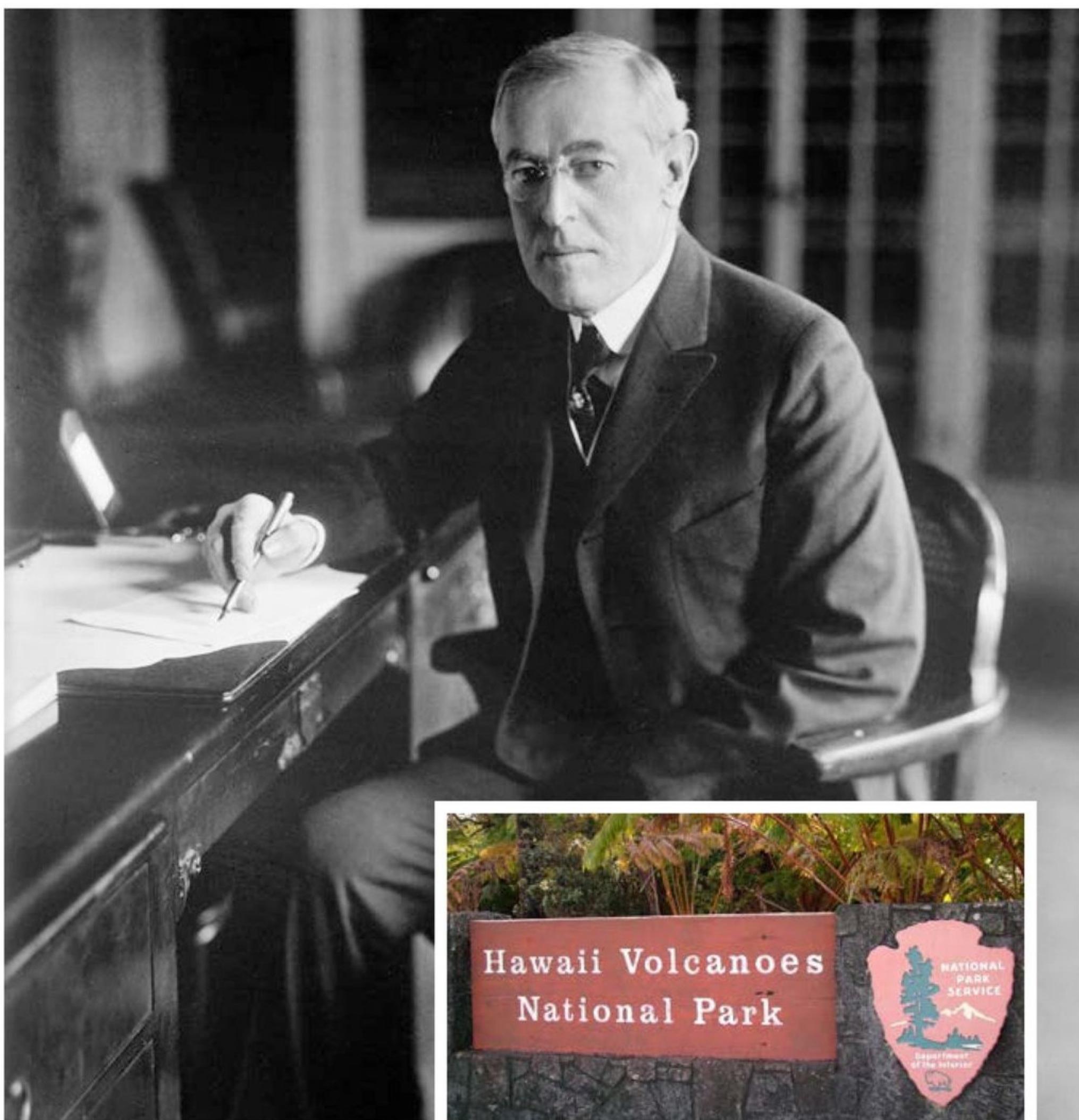
An active lava lake lies in the crater at the top of Kilauea.

An Amazing History

People have been visiting Kilauea and Mauna Loa for hundreds of years.

Early **native** people made offerings, or gifts, at the volcanoes. Visitors in the 1840s were amazed by the giant lake of lava.

People wanted to protect both the volcanoes and the land around them. President Woodrow Wilson made the area the country's thirteenth national park on August 1, 1916.



President Woodrow Wilson

Hawaii Volcanoes National Park covers 520 square miles (1,347 sq km). It extends from Mauna Loa to the coast. As well as volcanoes, it has lava tubes that run across the land and flow into the sea.

Lava tubes are big tunnels in the ground formed by lava long ago. They are so big that people can walk through them.



Visitors can walk through the Thurston Lava Tube in the park.



green grappler moth caterpillar



nene



apapane



Hawaiian happy-face spider

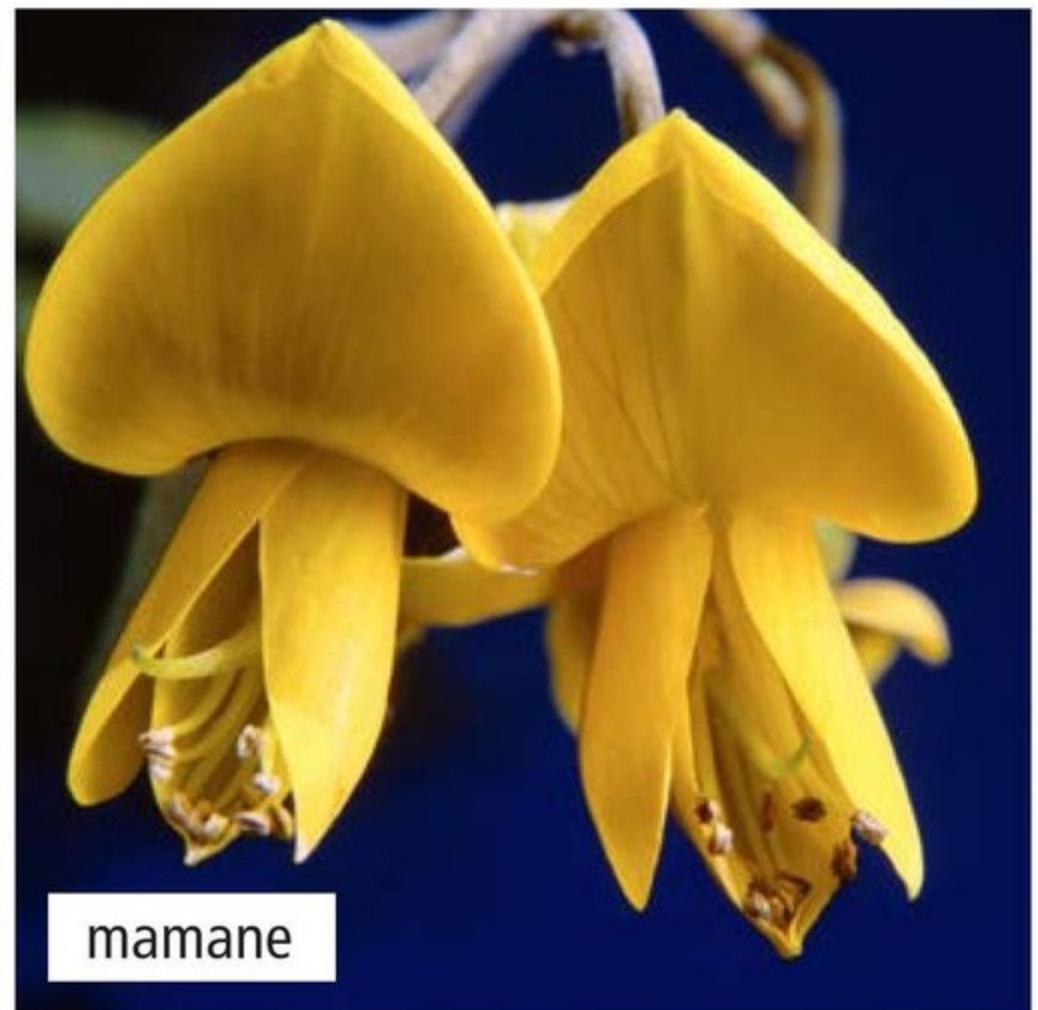
Wildlife at the Volcanoes' Edge

Having a volcano nearby doesn't keep animals from living there. In fact, hundreds of protected animals live in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. It is home to sea turtles, bats, unusual insects, and over twenty types of songbirds.

The park also has many protected native plants and trees. Almost all the park's plants are found only in Hawaii. Many plants have lived in and around the volcanoes for years.



ohia lehua tree



mamane



fern



silversword



Visitors can see the land change before their eyes at Hawaii Volcanoes National Park.

Enjoy—But Watch Your Step!

Hawaii Volcanoes National Park is a wonderful place to visit. Drive along a volcano or hike more than 150 miles (241 km) of trails. Bike along a volcano's paths or camp in the rainforest.

The volcanoes are continuously watched for eruptions. When lava flows or eruptions are possible, parts of the park are closed to visitors. This special place is never quiet for long.

Glossary

active (*adj.*) in a state of activity (p. 6)

erupted (*v.*) shot out rock, lava, and ash from an active volcano (p. 7)

lava (*n.*) melted, liquid rock that flows from an opening in Earth's surface (p. 4)

national park (*n.*) An area of land protected by the government for its history and natural beauty (p. 4)

native (*adj.*) natural to an area (p. 10)

spewing (*v.*) spitting out a large amount of something in a fast or forceful way (p. 6)

Hawaii Volcanoes National Park

A Reading A-Z Level N Leveled Book
Word Count: 606

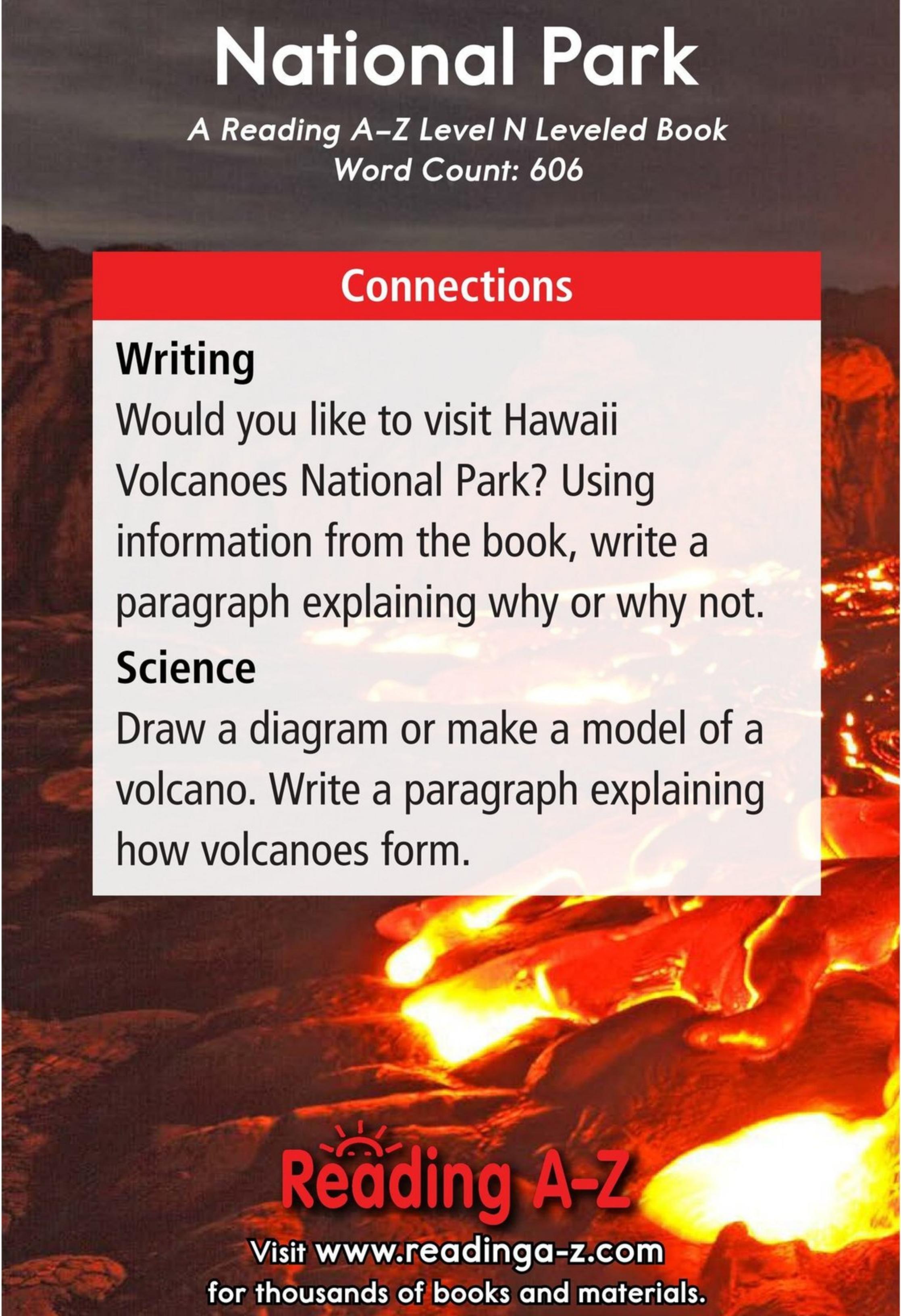
Connections

Writing

Would you like to visit Hawaii Volcanoes National Park? Using information from the book, write a paragraph explaining why or why not.

Science

Draw a diagram or make a model of a volcano. Write a paragraph explaining how volcanoes form.



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