

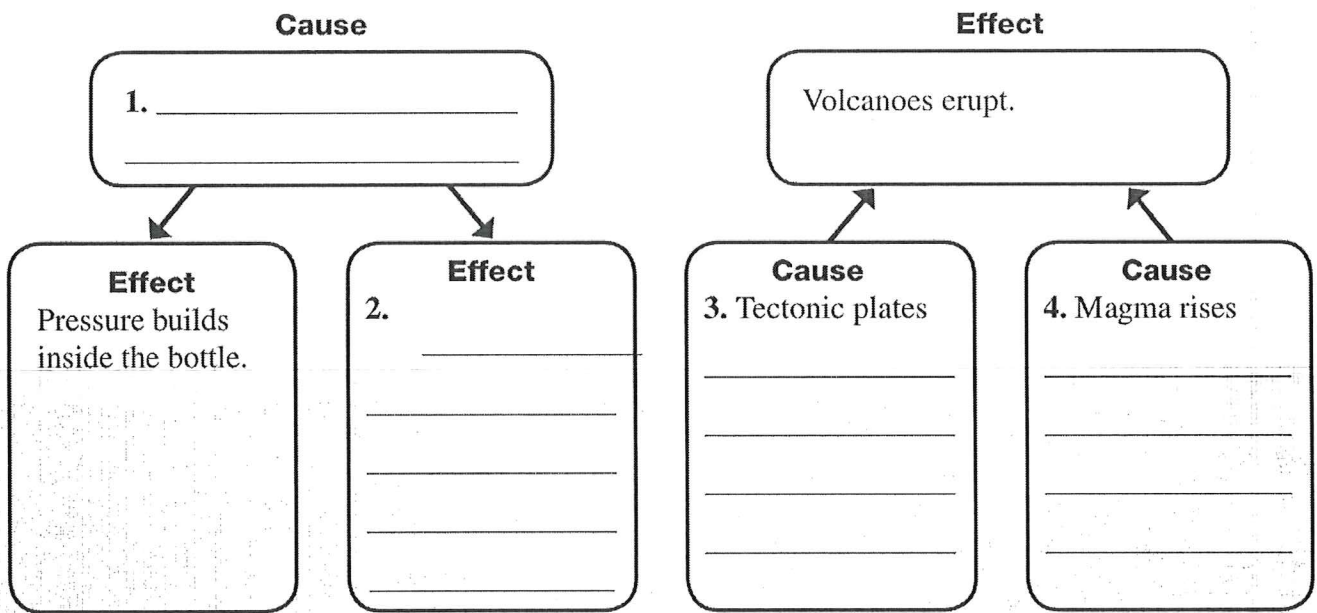
# Cause and Effect

- A **cause** (what makes something happen) may have several effects. An **effect** (what happens as a result of a cause) may have several causes.
- Sometimes clue words such as *since*, *as a result*, *caused*, *thus*, *therefore*, and *consequently* are used to show cause-and-effect relationships.

**Directions** Read the following passage. Then complete the diagram below.

**A** good way to understand how a volcano erupts is by shaking a bottle of soda. The shaking causes pressure to build up inside the bottle. When you open the bottle—splat! The soda bursts out of the top.

Volcanoes work in a similar way. The Earth’s magma, which is a thick liquid between the crust and the fiery core of the Earth, is like the soda pop. When the tectonic plates that sit below the continents shift and move, it’s like shaking up the soda bottle. After enough pressure builds up, the magma rises to the Earth’s surface, eventually causing volcanoes to erupt.



5. Write a summary of this passage in one or two sentences.

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**Home Activity** Your child read a short passage and identified causes and effects. Based on one of your child’s favorite movies, discuss the causes and effects.

## Cause and Effect

- A **cause** (what makes something happen) may have several effects. An **effect** (what happens as a result of a cause) may have several causes.
- Sometimes clue words such as *since, as a result, caused, thus, therefore, and consequently* are used to show cause-and-effect relationships.

**Directions** Read the following passage. Then answer the questions below.

**W**hy are people so fascinated with dinosaurs? Young and old alike, people are interested in the great beasts that once roamed this planet. Museums have been built to showcase what dinosaurs might have looked like, thousands of books have been written on the subject, and many television shows and movies have been made about them.

Are we fascinated by dinosaurs because they are so strange and unlike any animal we know? Is it because many of them were so huge? Maybe it's because some dinosaurs seem scary, and some people find it thrilling to be scared. Some scientists have made their life's work studying dinosaurs, and maybe that same curiosity is at the heart of all dinosaur fans.

1. What are two causes for people to be fascinated with dinosaurs?

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2. What are two effects of people's fascination with dinosaurs?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Using your own experience, what might be the most important reason we like dinosaurs?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Why do you think older people and young people are interested in dinosaurs?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Write a summary of this passage in one or two sentences.

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**Home Activity** Your child read a short passage and answered questions about causes and effects. With your child, discuss the reasons you think dinosaurs are fascinating. Ask your child to summarize your thoughts on dinosaurs.