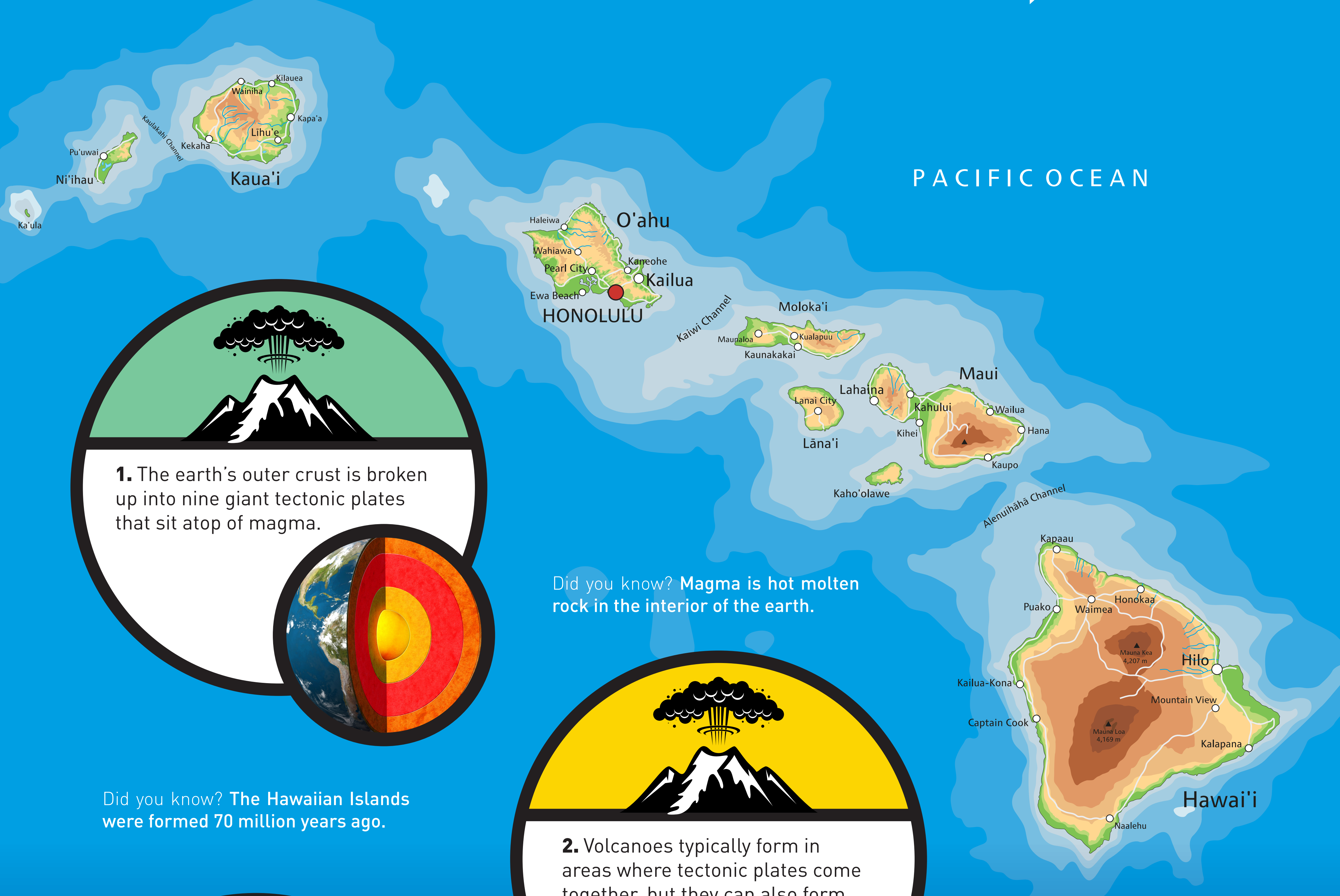
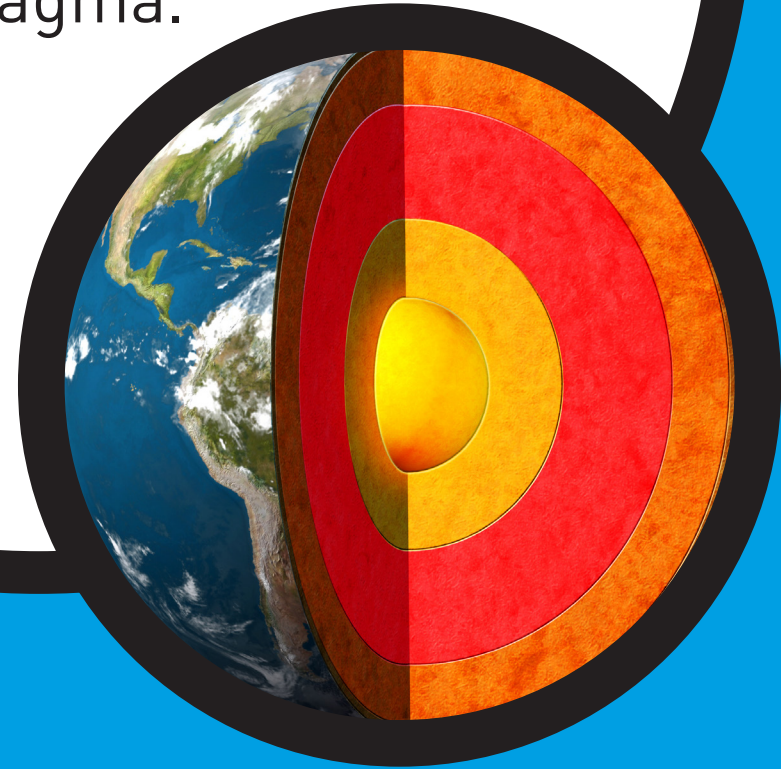


Hawaiian Volcanoes

Volcanoes formed the Hawaiian Islands, but how?



1. The earth's outer crust is broken up into nine giant tectonic plates that sit atop of magma.



Did you know? Magma is hot molten rock in the interior of the earth.



2. Volcanoes typically form in areas where tectonic plates come together, but they can also form in the middle of the plates, a phenomenon known as "hot spot volcanism."



Did you know? The Hawaiian Islands were formed 70 million years ago.



3. In the middle of the Pacific Tectonic Plate, magma rose up and erupted on the seafloor. As the plate moved over the "hot spot," it formed the Hawaiian Islands.



Did you know? The Hawaiian Islands are a chain of 132 islands that stretch over 1,500 miles.



4. Volcanoes continually change the landscape. When they erupt, molten lava rolls into the sea and the crashing waves pulverize the hardened rock along the shoreline, creating black sand beaches.



Did you know? Punalu'u beach is the most famous black sand beach on the Big Island of Hawaii.

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