

THE AMAZING ROCK WE LIVE ON

VOLCANIC EGG PROJECT

To see how the molten rock in the mantle can break through the Earth's crust, try this!

For this project you'll need:

- One raw egg
- Stove
- Small pot
- Cold water
- Table knife
- Adult supervision

Carefully tap a raw egg with a table knife to make a crack in the shell. Then insert the knife blade into the crack and break the thin membrane between the shell and egg white. Place the egg in a small pot and add enough cold water to cover the egg.

Set the pot on a burner and turn on the burner to medium-high. As the water heats to a boil, watch the crack in the egg. See how the egg white erupts through the crack and forms on the outside of the egg.

Do you know why this happens?

As the egg white heats up, it expands and pressure builds up inside the egg shell. The egg white breaks through the weak spot (the crack). The lava or molten rock in the mantle acts the same way. When pressure inside the Earth becomes great enough, a spectacular volcanic eruption occurs.

Save your egg for the Igneous Rock Egg Project on the next page.

