

## Key Vocabulary

**Core** - The core is at the centre of the Earth. There is a solid inner core and outer liquid core of molten metal.

**Crater** - The mouth of a volcano.

**Crust** - The surface layer covering our planet.

**Earthquake** - A violent movement of parts of the Earth's surface.

**Epicentre** - The point on the Earth's surface at the centre of an Earthquake.

**Erupt** - To suddenly burst out causing lava to explode out of the earth's surface.

**Lava** - Molten, hot rock flowing from a volcano.

**Molten** - Hot, melted rocks.

**Magma** - Extremely hot, liquid rock.

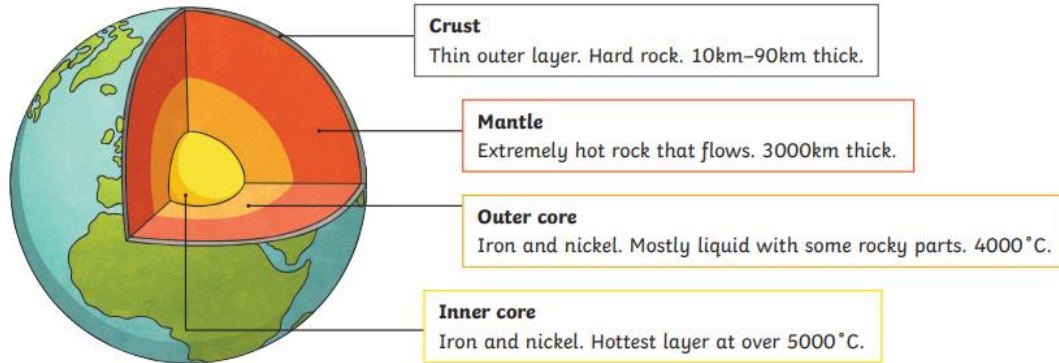
**Mantle** - Under the crust is the mantle forming about half of the Earth.

**Seismic waves** - An elastic wave in the earth produced by an earthquake or other means.

**Tectonic plates** - The earth's crust is made up of large areas called tectonic plates that join together.

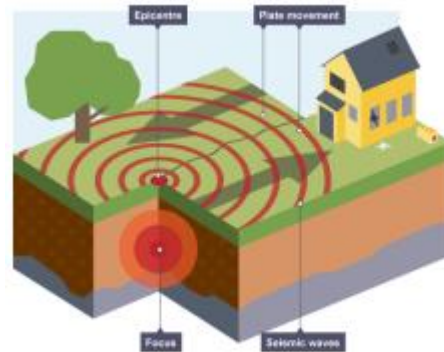
**Volcano** - An opening or rupture in the Earth's crust through which lava, ash and gases escape.

## Layers of Earth



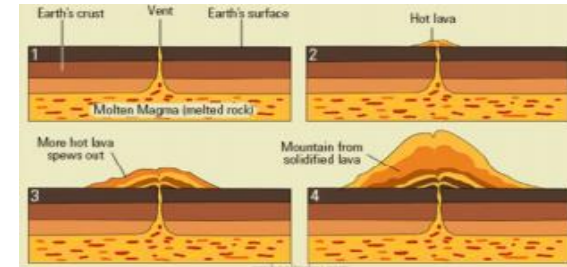
## Earthquakes

- Earthquakes are caused when the earth's tectonic plates suddenly move.
- Most earthquakes occur near the tectonic plate boundaries.
- Earthquakes can cause lots of damage to roads, buildings and property.
- The power of an earthquake is measured using the Richter Scale.



## Volcanoes

Volcanoes are made when pressure builds up inside the earth. This affects the earth's crust causing magma to sometimes erupt through it.



- Active volcanoes have erupted in the last 10 000 years.
- Dormant volcanoes haven't erupted in the last 10000 years but may erupt again.
- Extinct volcanoes aren't expected to erupt again.

## Tectonic plates

Most tectonic activity is along plate margins and the edge of continents. Some volcanoes form over hot spots in the mantle. The **Ring of Fire** is a region around much of the rim of the Pacific Ocean where many volcanic eruptions and earthquakes occur.



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