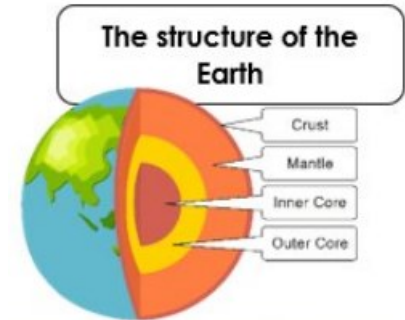


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Earthquakes



Key Vocabulary

earthquake	A violent movement of part of the earth's surface
epicentre	The point of the earth's surface at the centre of an earthquake
magnitude	The size of an earthquake
Richter scale	The scale which measures the size of an earthquake
Tectonic plate	A large section of the earth's crust
Tsunami	A long, high sea wave caused by an earthquake
core	The centre part of the earth
mantle	The molten rock that surrounds the core
crust	The thin layer of the earth's surface
volcano	An opening in the earth where molten rock can escape
Pacific Ring of Fire	An area of the Pacific ocean where most earthquakes and volcanoes are located



Key Facts



- Earthquakes tend to occur on plate boundaries and when the plates move
- The Richter scale measures the size of the earthquake from 1 to 10. The higher the number on the Richter scale, the more energy the earthquake releases
- Not all earthquakes cause the same amount of damage.
- The earth's crust is broken up into huge blocks called plates—a bit like a jigsaw puzzle
- The earth's plates move and when they do they can cause earthquakes
- Most volcanoes occur in the same place as earthquakes

Did you know?

Earth's crust, split like this egg shell. Each piece is called a tectonic plate.



A Map showing the location of the Earth's Tectonic Plates

