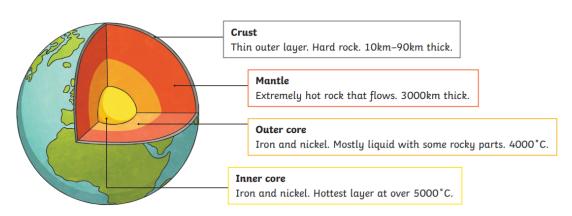
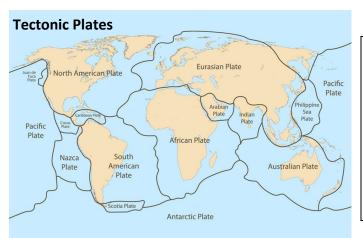
Extreme Earth





Tectonic Plates

The Earth's surface is called the crust. It is made up of different rocky sections called tectonic plates. This map shows where the plates are. Tectonic plates can move about on the softer mantle underneath them.

- **Volcanoes** are caused when magma rises to the surface of the Earth, which causes bubbles of gas to appear in it. This gas can cause pressure to build up beneath the surface, and it eventually explodes.
- **Earthquakes** are usually caused when rock underground suddenly breaks along a fault. This sudden release of energy causes the seismic waves that make the ground shake.
- A **tsunami** is a series of large waves generated by an abrupt movement on the ocean floor that can result from an earthquake, an underwater landslide, a volcanic eruption or very rarely a large meteorite strike.
- A **hurricane** is a large rotating storm with high speed winds that form over warm waters in tropical areas.
- **Flooding** occurs when a river bursts its banks and overflows onto the surrounding land.
- Monsoons are wind patterns that causes heavy rain for long periods of time.

| Key Words |
|------------------|
| Natural disaster |
| Volcano |
| Earthquake |
| Tsunami |
| Hurricane |
| Flooding |
| Monsoon |
| Earth |
| Continents |
| Tectonic plates |
| Equator |
| Hemisphere |
| Fault |
| Location |
| Ring of Fire |
| Weather |
| Climate |
| Crust |
| Outer core |
| Inner core |
| Mantle |
| Lava |
| Magma |
| Ash |
| Eruption |
| Active |
| Dormant |
| Extinct |
| Aftershock |
| Vent |
| |