

The Earth is made up of layers: the **crust**, **mantle**, **outer core** and **inner core**.

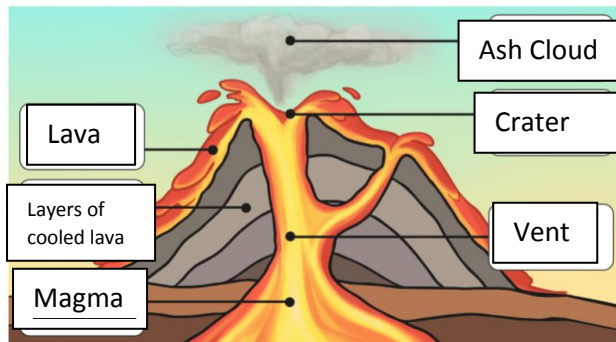
The crust is divided up into **tectonic plates**, which float on the mantle layer and move slowly.



The movement of the tectonic plates can cause **earthquakes**.

Volcanoes are often found where two tectonic plates meet.

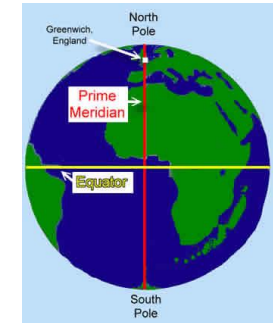
A Cross Section of a Volcano



Active Planet: Core Knowledge

Vocabulary

Ash cloud	Produced when a volcano erupts.
Continents	The main land masses on Earth. There are seven.
Crater	The open hole in the top
Crust	The top layer of planet Earth. Covered by land and oceans.
Earth	The planet we live on.
Earthquake	When the ground shakes violently.
Equator	The imaginary line running around the middle of the Earth which divides the hemispheres.
Inner core	The middle part of the Earth.
Hemisphere	Half of the Earth - Northern and Southern hemispheres.
Lava	Molten rock that erupts from a volcano.
Magma	Hot molten material below or within the Earth's crust.
Mantle	The second layer of Earth. Tectonic plates float on this layer.
Oceans	Large areas of water that cover the Earth's surface. There are five.
Outer core	The layer between the mantle and inner core.
Tectonic Plates	The Earth's crust is divided up into sections called tectonic plates, which float on the mantle layer below.
Vent	Where magma travels to the surface.
Volcano	Where magma from below the Earth's crust reaches the surface, often forming a mountain.



The Earth is like a sphere (ball). The **equator** divides the Earth into the **Northern and Southern hemispheres**. The **Prime meridian** runs through Lincolnshire.



The diagram shows the locations of the **seven continents** and the **five oceans**.

Continents:

Asia, Africa, North America, South America, Antarctica, Europe and Australia.

Oceans:

Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Southern and Arctic.