



Crust

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The outside layer of the earth on which the oceans and continents lie

Mantle

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The middle layer of the earth, made up of molten rock called magma

Molten

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Rock that has been liquified by heat

Core

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The centre of the Earth, made up of iron and nickel





Convection Currents

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When magma that has been heated rises to the surface and falls as it cools

Boundary

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Where two plates meet

Continental Drift

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The movement of continental and oceanic plates

Destructive Boundaries

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Areas where plates collide, e.g. the Nazca and South American Plate





Passive Boundaries

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Areas where plates separate, e.g. the North American and Eurasian Plate

Constructive Boundaries

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Areas where plates slide past each other, e.g. the North American and Pacific Plate

Mid-Ocean Ridges

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Where magma escapes from fissures in the Earth's crust to form a chain of mountains, e.g. the MidAtlantic Ridge

Volcanoes

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When magma rises up from a magma chamber in the Earth's crust and erupts, e.g. Mt. St. Helens





Vent

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The narrow tube in the Earth's crust from which the magma escapes the magma chamber

**Active
Volcano**

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Volcanoes that erupt frequently, e.g. Mt. St. Helens

**Dormant
Volcano**

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Volcanoes that have not erupted for a long time, e.g. Mt. Vesuvius

**Extinct
Volcano**

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Volcanoes that have never erupted





Lahars

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When lava from a volcano mixes with the snow on top of a mountain to create a river of hot mud

Geysers

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Hot springs of water that form in area where there is lots of volcanic activity

Earthquake

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Sudden vibrations in the Earth's crust

Epicentre

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The point on the surface (directly above the focus) where the tremors are strongest





Focus

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The point beneath the surface where the earthquake originates

Fault Lines

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A plate boundary along which earthquakes are frequent, e.g. the San Andreas Fault

Aftershocks

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The small tremors that follow an earthquake

Seismologist

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A scientist who studies earthquake activity





Seismograph

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The instrument used to measure the strength of the earthquake

Richter Scale

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The scale used to show the strength of an earthquake on a scale of 1-12

Tsunami

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A tidal wave that is triggered when earthquakes occur under the sea

Fold Mountains

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Mountain ranges that are formed when two plates collide, e.g. the Andes





Anticline

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The up-fold of
the mountain

Syncline

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The down-fold
of the mountain

**Alpine Folding
Period**

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Folding which took place
30-35 million years ago
in which the Himalayas,
Andes and Alps were
formed

**Armorican
Folding Period**

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Folding which took place
250 million years ago in
which the Galtees and
the Macgillycuddy's
Reeks were formed

