

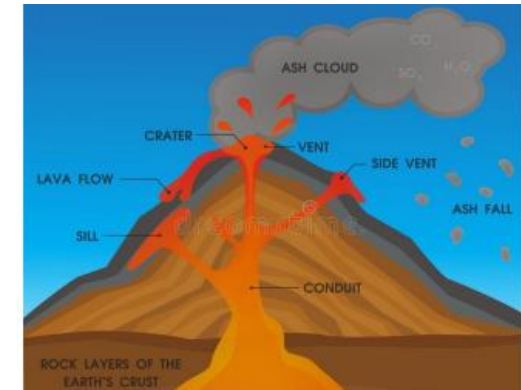
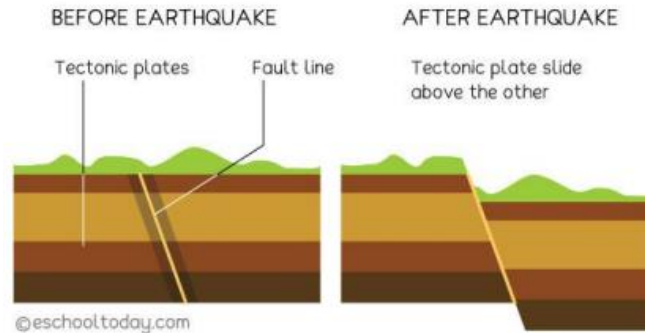
What a wonderful world!

Key Vocabulary

Earthquake	A sudden violent shaking of the ground which creates great destruction.
Epicentre	Part of the earth's surface directly above the focus of an earthquake.
Seismic Waves	A wave that travels through the Earth.
Tectonic Plates	Earth's outer layer is made up of large moving pieces called plate. They are made from solid rock.
Crater	A volcanic crater is a roughly circular depression in the ground caused by activity.
Eruption	When magma is released from a volcano
Lava	Liquid that cools into rock which is a solid
Magma	Hot fluid or semi- fluid material below or within the earth's crust from which lava is formed on cooling.

Earthquakes

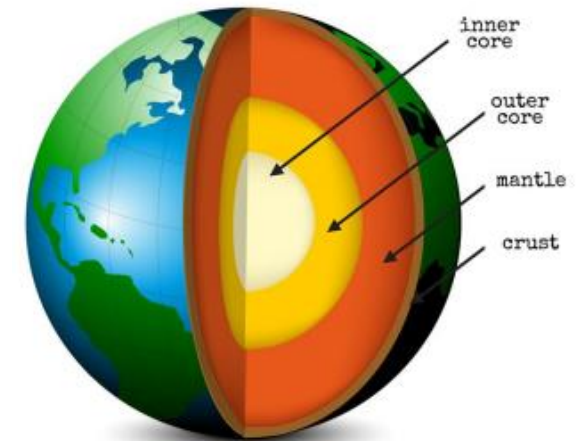
An earthquake is the shaking and vibration of the Earth's crust. The Earth's crust is actually made up of giant puzzle pieces called **tectonic plates**. Tectonic plates are constantly shifting as they drift around on the viscous, or slowly flowing, **mantle** layer below. This non-stop movement causes stress on Earth's crust. When the stresses get too large, it leads to cracks called **faults**. When tectonic plates move, it also causes movements at the faults. An earthquake is the sudden movement of Earth's crust at a fault line.



Volcanoes

Volcanoes are formed when **magma** rises through cracks or weaknesses in the Earth's crust. Pressure builds up inside the Earth. When this pressure is released, e.g. as a result of plate movement, magma explodes to the surface causing a volcanic eruption. The **lava** from the eruption cools to form new crust. Over time, after several eruptions, the rock builds up and a volcano forms.

LAYERS OF THE EARTH



Famous Volcanoes:
 Mount Etna- Sicily
 Mount Vesuvius- Naples
 Mount Fuji- Honshu
 Mount St Helens- Washington



Ring of Fire

The **Ring of Fire** is a major area in the basin of the Pacific Ocean where many earthquakes and volcanic eruptions occur.