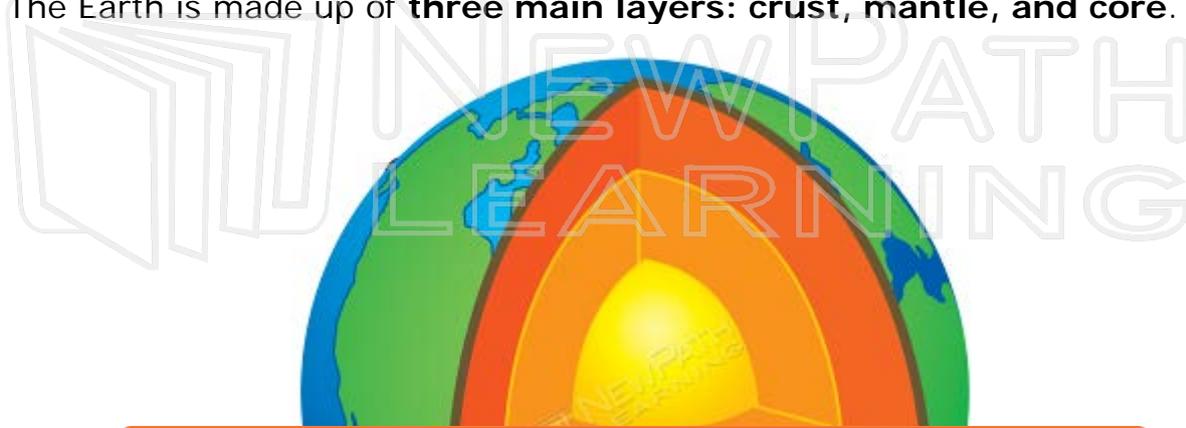


## CHANGES ON EARTH

### Layers of Earth

The Earth is made up of **three main layers: crust, mantle, and core.**



### PREVIEW

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**Lesson Checkpoint: What layer of the Earth do we live on?**

Under the Earth's crust is the layer called the **mantle**. The Earth's mantle is made of igneous and metamorphic rocks.

The inside layer of the Earth is called the **core**. The Earth's **core** is made of metal. The Earth's **core** is so very hot, hot enough to melt but the center of the core is packed together so tightly it is solid. The outer section of the Earth's **core** however is hot, thick liquid.

**Lesson Checkpoint:**  
**What types of rocks make up the Earth's mantle?**

## Earth's Landforms

**Landforms** are many different solid features formed on top of the Earth's crust. Some also involve bodies of water.



A **glacier** is a slow moving large body of ice. An **ocean** is made up of saltwater. Oceans cover just about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the Earth's surface. A **river** is a natural flow of water that is larger than a brook or a creek. A **lake** is large body of still water surrounded by land. A **coast** is the land that is right next to the ocean that forms the coastline.

A **valley** is a low, narrow area that is formed by rivers and glaciers. A **plain** is a large, mostly flat area of land. A **plateau** is a plain that is up higher than all the land surrounding it. Sometimes you will find a plateau on a mountain.

A **hill** is an elevated land but it is not as tall as a **mountain**. A **mountain** is elevated land that reaches high above the Earth's surface and is larger than a hill.

### **Lesson Checkpoint: Which is taller, a hill or a mountain?**

A **volcano** is an opening in the Earth's crust from which hot, melted rock forcefully comes out when pressure is built up inside the Earth. **Magma** is what we call the melted rock that is beneath the Earth's surface. When it bursts out of the volcano and flows on land we call that same molten rock **lava**.

**Volcanoes** erupt when magma is close to the Earth's surface and pressure builds up forcing the magma out of the Earth's crust.



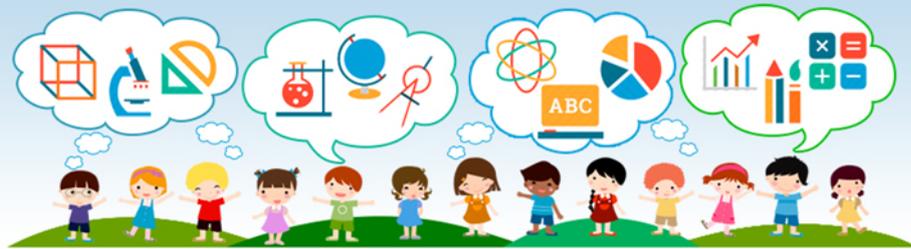
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### **Lesson Checkpoint: What is the difference between magma and lava?**

An **earthquake** is a sudden shift in the Earth's crust that causes the ground to shake and vibrate violently. Most **earthquakes** happen near faults. **Faults** are large cracks in the Earth's crust.

**Weathering** is the process of rocks being changed over time by conditions such as rain, snow, ice, pressure. Rocks can change shape, size, or break into smaller pieces from weathering.



## PREVIEW

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Water can cause erosion. Erosion is the movement of land or rocks that has been weathered is called **erosion**. A strong storm can cause waves to wash away rocks and land at a beach; that is erosion. **Erosion** is caused by water, wind, gravity, and glaciers.

