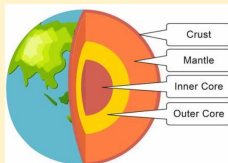


Year 5/6 Geography : Why do people live near volcanoes and known earthquake zones?

EQ: Where in the world are many volcanoes and earthquakes?

Earth's crust: The outer layer of our planet.

The crust is made up of sections called **tectonic plates** which fit together like a puzzle.

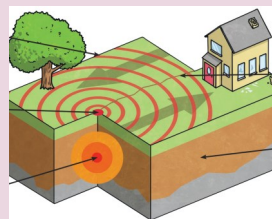


- The **Earth's crust** is split into **tectonic plates**.
- Earthquakes and volcanoes often occur where plates meet.
- The '**Ring of fire**', which is around the Pacific plate, has many volcanoes and earthquakes.



EQ: What is an earthquake and what causes one?

- Earthquakes are caused by **tectonic plates** moving against each other.
- This sends **shockwaves** through the Earth's crust which is what causes the ground to shake.
- The pressure can crack the Earth's crust.



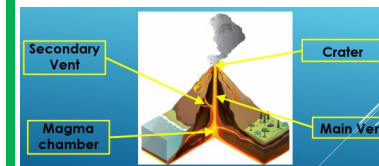
Epicentre: The point on the Earth's surface, directly above the focus of an earthquake.



Shockwaves: Waves of movement caused by an earthquake.

EQ: What is a volcano and what causes it to erupt?

1. Volcanoes usually form where tectonic plates move towards or away from each other.
2. Magma is pushed up towards the Earth's surface.
3. Pressure builds up in the magma chamber.
4. Magma is eventually pushed up through the main vent.
5. Gases and ash are released into the atmosphere. Lava runs down the mountainside.



A **volcano** is an opening in the Earth's crust. They are often mountain or hill-shaped.

EQ: What are the advantages of living near volcanoes?



Active volcanoes: are currently erupting or highly likely to erupt.

Dormant volcanoes: have not erupted for a long time but may erupt again in the future.

Extinct volcanoes: have not erupted for a very long time and are unlikely to erupt again in the future.

Advantages

1. **Fertile soil** – nutrients in the ash from eruptions enable crops to grow.
2. **Tourism** – volcanoes attract visitors to the area,
3. **Geothermal energy** – provides a clean renewable energy source.

EQ: What are the disadvantages of living near volcanoes and earthquake zones?

The main disadvantage is the **destruction** caused by both volcanoes and earthquakes.

Volcanoes

- Lava flow covering buildings and farmland.
- Poisonous gases released into the air.
- Disruption to air travel due to the ash cloud.
- Mudslides and rockfall damage the area around the volcano.

Earthquakes

- Collapsed buildings
- Damaged infrastructure (roads, trainlines, electricity and water supplies)
- Tsunamis
- Flooding and fires

The damage caused by earthquakes and volcanoes causes death, loss of homes and jobs. The cost of rebuilding and repairing is huge.