

Mount Kilimanjaro

Mount Kilimanjaro is located in Tanzania, East Africa.

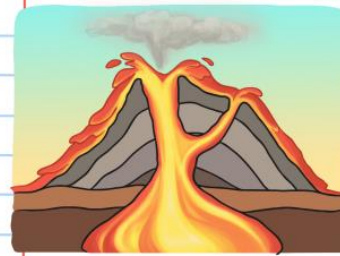
Its highest peak is 5,895m high.



The top of the mountain is covered with glacier ice. The glaciers have shrunk 80% since 1912. Scientists believe it may be ice free within 20 years.



Did You Know?
The mountain has three volcanic cones called Shira, Mawenzi and Kibo.



The volcanic peaks Shira and Mawenzi are extinct but Kibo, the highest peak, is dormant and could erupt again. The last major eruption was 360,000 years ago.



Kilimanjaro contains an example of virtually every ecosystem on earth - glacier, snowfields, deserts, alpine, moorland, savannah and tropical jungles. This is all found on the mountain!

Location:	Tanzania, East Africa
Highest Peak:	5895m
Wildlife:	Over 150 different species of mammals recorded including the blue monkey and birds such as the white-necked raven. In the lower regions, rare sightings occur of elephants, giraffes, buffalo and porcupines.
Climbing:	There are several different recognised routes to ascend Kilimanjaro. The highest summit is the snow-capped Uruhu Peak.

Key Vocabulary

Core - The core is at the centre of the Earth. There is a solid inner core and outer liquid core of molten metal.

Crater - The mouth of a volcano.

Crust - The surface layer covering our planet.

Earthquake - A violent movement of parts of the Earth's surface.

Epicentre - The point on the Earth's surface at the centre of an Earthquake.

Erupt - To suddenly burst out causing lava to explode out of the earth's surface.

Lava - Molten, hot rock flowing from a volcano.

Molten - Hot, melted rocks.

Magma - Extremely hot, liquid rock.

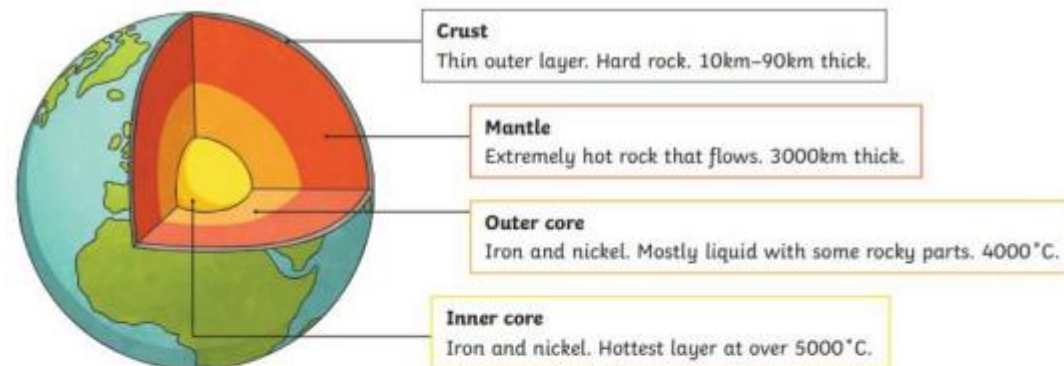
Mantle - Under the crust is the mantle forming about half of the Earth.

Seismic waves - An elastic wave in the earth produced by an earthquake or other means.

Tectonic plates - The earth's crust is made up of large areas called tectonic plates that join together.

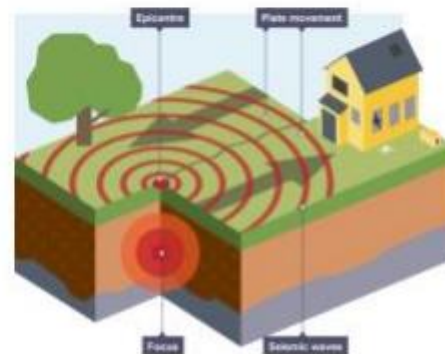
Volcano - An opening or rupture in the Earth's crust through which lava, ash and gases escape.

Layers of Earth



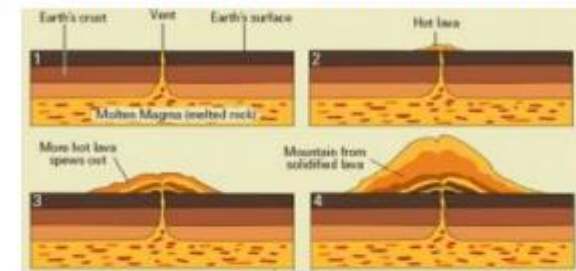
Earthquakes

- Earthquakes are caused when the earth's tectonic plates suddenly move.
- Most earthquakes occur near the tectonic plate boundaries.
- Earthquakes can cause lots of damage to roads, buildings and property.
- The power of an earthquake is measured using the Richter Scale.



Volcanoes

Volcanoes are made when pressure builds up inside the earth. This affects the earth's crust causing magma to sometimes erupt through it.



- Active volcanoes have erupted in the last 10 000 years.
- Dormant volcanoes haven't erupted in the last 10000 years but may erupt again.
- Extinct volcanoes aren't expected to erupt again.

Tectonic plates

Most tectonic activity is along plate margins and the edge of continents. Some volcanoes form over hot spots in the mantle. The **Ring of Fire** is a region around much of the rim of the Pacific Ocean where many volcanic eruptions and earthquakes occur.

