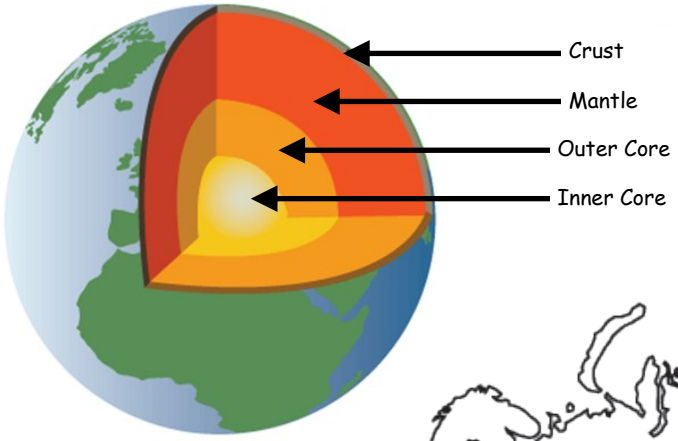
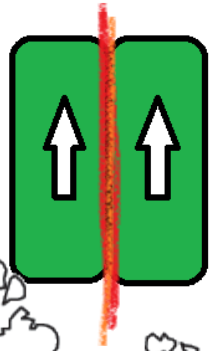
Plate Tectonics

The Structure of the Earth



Passive Margin



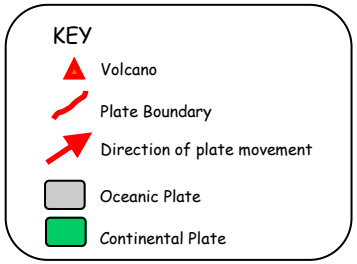
- A passive margin is where the plates move side by side.
- Occasional, when the plates move earthquakes occur. These can cause a large amount of destruction.
- No new material is made and no material is destroyed at passive margins.
- An example of a passive margin is the San Andreas Fault in California.

Oceanic Crust

- Is made of basalt.
- About 5km thick.
- The rock is dense and heavy.

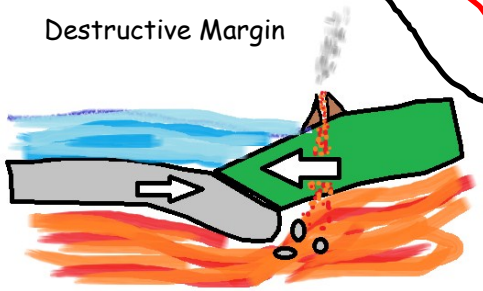
Continental Crust

- Is made of granite.
- About 30km thick.
- The rock is less dense and is lighter.

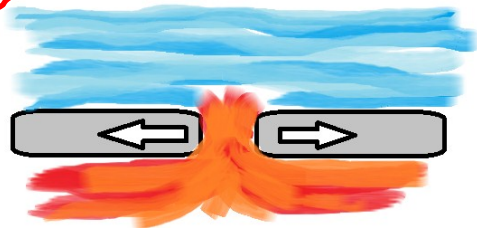


Destructive Margin

- A destructive margin is where the plates towards each other.
- The oceanic plate is SUBDUCTED under the continental plate, where it melts. This melts and the magma rises to the surface and forms volcanoes.
- An example of a destructive margin is where the Indo-Australian plate meets the Pacific plate.



Constructive Margin



- A constructive margin is where the plates move away from each other in opposite directions.
- Where the plates move apart magma flows onto the surface as lava and forms new material on the crust.
- An example of a constructive margin is the Mid-Atlantic Ridge in the Atlantic Ocean.

To help a little bit you can cut out and stick these text boxes on to your map. However, you need to make sure that you are putting them in the correct place.

- Occasional, when the plates move earthquakes occur. These can cause a large amount of destruction.

- A destructive margin is where the plates towards each other.

- An example of a constructive margin is the Mid-Atlantic Ridge in the Atlantic Ocean.

- The oceanic plate is SUBDUCTED under the continental plate, where it melts. This melts and the magma rises to the surface and forms volcanoes.

- A passive margin is where the plates move side by side.

- An example of a destructive margin is where the Indo-Australian plate meets the Pacific plate.

- An example of a passive margin is the San Andreas Fault in California.

- A constructive margin is where the plates move away from each other in opposite directions.

- Where the plates move apart magma flows onto the surface as lava and forms new material on the crust.

- No new material is made and no material is destroyed at passive margins.