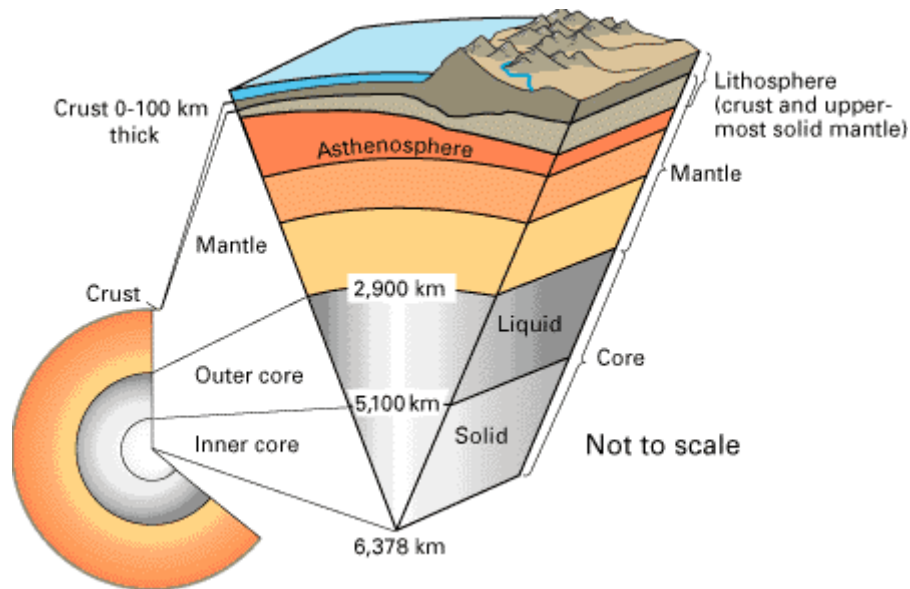


INTERIOR OF THE EARTH

Earth's interior can be divided into the crust, upper mantle, lower mantle, outer core, and inner core.



The Crust

- Crust is the outer layer of the Earth, where we live. It is the skin of our Earth, which ranges between 5 to 30 km.
- The thickness of the crust is greater below the continents than the ocean floor.
- Continental Crust is made up of SIAL and Oceanic Crust is made up of SIMA.
- The boundary between the upper crust and the lower crust is termed as 'Conorod boundary'.

The Mantle

- The mantle is composed of silica, magnesium and iron. It lies between the lower crust and the outer core, which is about 2,900 km thick.
- It is divided into upper mantle and lower mantle. The mantle generally is in a solid state. The upper part of the mantle is called asthenosphere.
- The asthenosphere is the part of the mantle that flows and moves the plates of the earth.

The Core

- The core is the innermost and hottest layer of the Earth which lies below the mantle. It is composed mainly of Nickel (Ni) and Iron (Fe). Hence it is called NIFE.
- The core is divided into Solid inner core and Liquid outer core.
- The presence of large quantities of iron in the core is responsible for the Earth's gravitational force.

- As the Earth rotates on its axis, the liquid outer core spins over the solid inner core and generates the Earth's magnetic field.