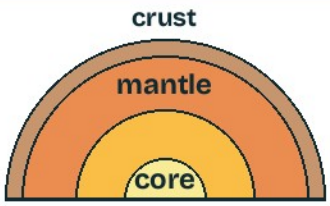
Earth Science and Geology

How our planet works

WHAT IS IT?

Earth science studies the planet's rocks, water, air and the forces that shape them. Geology reads rocks and landforms to learn what happened in the past and what is happening now.



inside the Earth

THE BIG IDEAS

1. Earth has layers: crust, mantle and core.
2. Plates in the crust slowly move, building mountains and causing earthquakes.
3. Rocks change type over time: igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic.
4. Layers of rock record time, with older layers usually lower down.

YOU SEE IT WHEN ...

- Volcanoes and earthquakes in the news
- Canyons, cliffs and fossils
- Weather maps and the water cycle

WORDS YOU WILL MEET

Crust
Earth's thin outer layer of rock

Mantle
the thick layer of hot rock under the crust

Tectonic plate
a large slow-moving piece of the crust

Mineral
a natural solid with a set chemical makeup

Erosion
wearing away of rock by water, wind or ice

Fossil
preserved remains or traces of ancient life

GOOD TO KNOW FIRST

Basic science words and map reading.

IN YOUR COURSE YOU WILL ...

- Identify common rocks and minerals
- Read maps and rock layers
- Explain plate tectonics
- Follow the water cycle and weather

Start tip: Collect a few local rocks and sort them into the three types.

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