



Geology

Vocabulary Words Week 1



- 1. crust** The earth's top layer. It is divided into the oceanic and continental layers and is composed of granite-like rock
- 2. igneous rock** Rock formed from cooled magma
- 3. sedimentary rock** Layers of sediments that become cemented together
- 4. metamorphic rock** Rock formed by heat and pressure
- 5. magma** Hot liquid rock
- 6. mantle** Lies beneath the earth's crust and is 1,740 miles thick. It is mainly rock.
- 7. outer core** The inner point of the earth that is made up of very hot liquid materials
- 8. inner core** The very center of the earth. It is solid with a nickel and iron composition
- 9. earthquake** A vibration caused by movements within the earth
- 10. fault** A fracture along which rocks move
- 11. seismograph** An instrument that measures the speed of earthquake shock waves
- 12. tsunami** A huge sea wave that travels at fast speeds; sometimes caused by an earthquake
- 13. plate tectonics theory** Theory that describes the movement of the earth's plates on the mantle
- 14. plate boundary** A place where earth's plates meet



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Vocabulary Words Week 2



- 1. volcano** An opening in the earth's crust through which lava and other earth materials flow and collect
- 2. lava** Molten (liquid form of heat) rock which erupts or flows from an active volcano
- 3. shield volcano** A broad volcano with gently sloping sides
- 4. cinder cone volcano** A volcano with very steep sides, and is usually less than 30 meters
- 5. cinder** Pieces of lava that have been forcefully blown out of a volcano vent
- 6. composite cone volcano** A volcano made from both lava flows and cinder. This type of volcano can be the most violent. Some of the earth's most beautiful mountains are this type of volcano. (Ex. Mount St. Helens)
- 7. active volcano** A volcano that erupts
- 8. dormant volcano** A volcano that may erupt
- 9. extinct volcano** A volcano that has stopped erupting
- 10. hot springs** Boiling water that rises up through cracks in the ground
- 11. geysers** Hot springs that spout water and steam at regular intervals
- 12. Pacific Ring of Fire** An area around the Pacific Ocean where many of the world's active volcanoes are found



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Vocabulary Words Week 3



1. **continent** One of the principal land masses of the earth
2. **epicenter** The point on the earth's surface from which earthquake waves seem to radiate
3. **magnitude** Greatest in size
4. **Richter Scale** A scale ranging from 1 to 10 used to express the magnitude or total energy of an earthquake
5. **continental drift** The theoretical slow shifting of continents due to weakness in the sub oceanic crust
6. **magma chambers** Chambers beneath the earth that hold hot liquid
7. **molten** Made into liquid by heating
8. **continental shelf** A generally shallow flat submerged portion of a continent extending to a point of steep descent to the ocean floor
9. **seismologist** A trained scientist that reads, interprets seismometer
10. **sandstone** Variously colored sedimentary rock composed mostly of sand like quartz grains cemented by lime, silica, and other materials
11. **calcite** Crystalline form of natural calcium carbonates that is the chief substance of limestone, marble, and chalk
12. **emerald** A brilliant transparent green stone used as a gem
13. **chalk** A soft compact calcium carbonate generally gray-white or yellow-white and derived mainly from fossil seashells
14. **basalt** A hard dense dark volcanic rock often having a glassy appearance
15. **extrusive rock** Rock that forms on the surface from lava
16. **intrusive rock** Rock that forms when magma cools deep in the earth



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Vocabulary Words Week 4



1. **flint** A hard, fine-grained quartz that sparks when struck with steel
2. **halite** Rock salt
3. **marble** A metamorphic rock often irregularly colored by impurities used for architectural and ornamental purposes
4. **radium** A rare, brilliant white, luminescent, highly radioactive metallic material element that is used in cancer radiotherapy
5. **granite** A common, coarse-grained, light-colored, hard igneous rock used in monument and for buildings
6. **limestone** A shale or sandy sedimentary rock used as a building stone
7. **aluminum** A silvery-white, metallic element; the most abundant in the earth's crust. However, it is found only in combinations; chiefly in bauxite
8. **quartz** A hard, crystalline mineral found world-wide in sandstone and granite
9. **sulfur** A pale-yellow, nonmetallic element occurring widely in nature that is used in gunpowder and insecticide
10. **obsidian** An acid-resistant, lustrous volcanic glass that is usually black or banded and displaying curved shiny surfaces when broken
11. **conglomerate** Rock consisting of pebbles and gravel embedded in a loosely cementing material
12. **diamond** A very hard mineral that is made from pure carbon crystals. It usually has no color and is the hardest natural substance known
13. **lead** A heavy, blue-gray metal that melts and bends easily
14. **talc** A fine-grained white greenish or gray mineral, having a soft, soapy texture. It is used in talcum and face powder.
15. **breccia** Rock composed of sharp-angled fragments cemented in a shell
16. **tin** A silvery metallic element used to coat other metals to prevent corrosion



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Vocabulary Words Week 4

