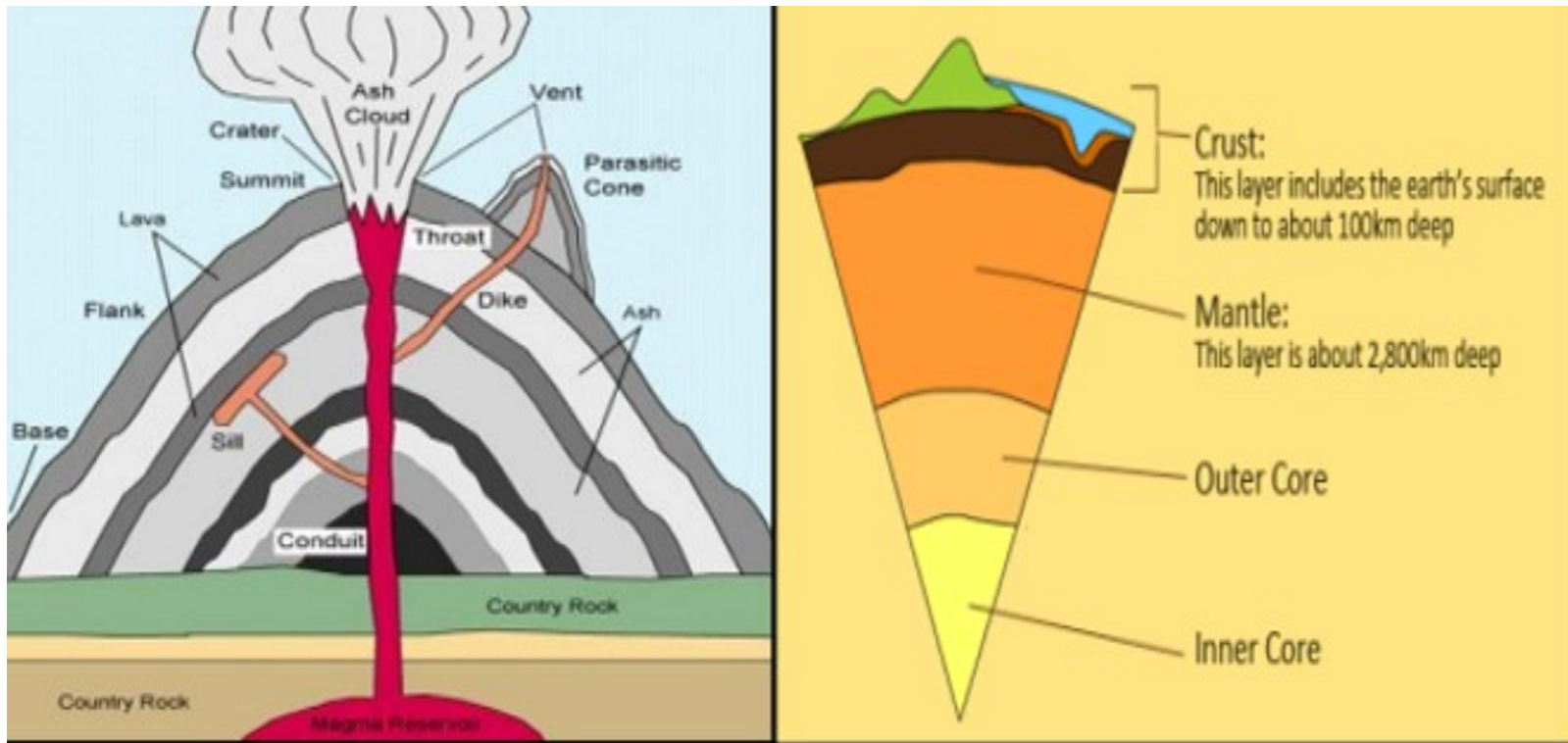


Knowledge Organiser - Volcanoes and Earthquakes

Volcanoes are formed when magma rises through cracks or weaknesses in the Earth's crust. Pressure builds up inside the Earth. When this pressure is released, e.g. as a result of plate movement, magma explodes to the surface causing a volcanic eruption. The lava from the eruption cools to form new crust. Over time, after several eruptions, the rock builds up and a volcano forms.

An earthquake is the shaking and vibration of the Earth's crust. The Earth's crust is actually made up of giant puzzle pieces called tectonic plates. Tectonic plates are constantly shifting as they drift around on the viscous, or slowly flowing mantle layer below.

Diagram of a volcano and layers of Earth



Key Vocabulary

| | | |
|----|----------------|--|
| 1 | Volcano | An opening of rupture in the Earth's crust through which Lava, ash and gases escape. |
| 2 | Magma | A molten substance beneath the Earth's crust. |
| 3 | Lava | Molten, hot rock flowing from a volcano. |
| 4 | Crater | The mouth of a volcano. |
| 5 | Eruption | A volcano erupts when it shoots out lava. |
| 6 | Molten | Hot, molten rocks. |
| 7 | Earthquake | A violent movement of parts of the Earth's Surface |
| 8 | Earth's Crusts | The surface layer covering our planet |
| 9 | Earth's Mantle | Under the crust is the mantle forming about half of the Earth. |
| 10 | Earth's core | The core is at the centre of Earth.. |

Ring of the Fire

The Ring Of Fire is a major area in the basin of the Pacific Ocean where many earthquakes and volcanic eruptions occur. The Ring of Fire stretches from the southern tip of South America, up the west coast of North America, across the Bering Strait, down through Japan, and into New Zealand.

Diagram of before and after an earthquake

