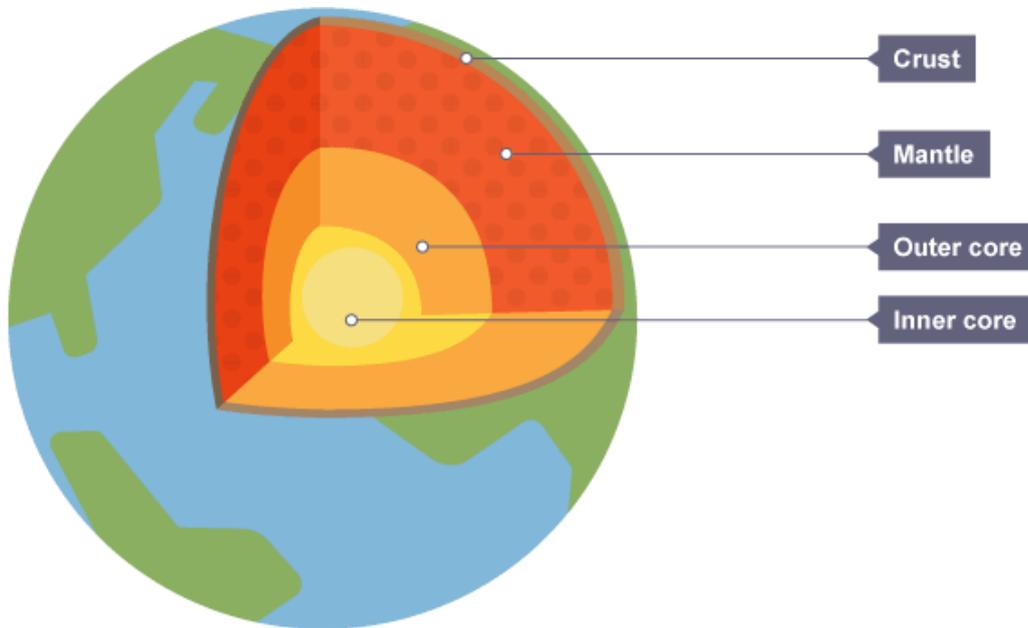


THE STRUCTURE OF THE EARTH



- **The crust :** there are 2 types of crust, continental and oceanic. The oceanic one is 5 to 10km deep, and made of very hard rocks, like basalt or gabbro. The continental one is 30 to 50km deep, and made of less hard rocks. They occupy only **1 % of Earth's volume**. They both « float » on the mantle.
- **The mantle :** made of silicate rocks mostly, the mantle occupies **84 % of the Earth's volume**, starting around 50km deep up to 3000km deep where it reaches the core. It is at the same time solid and plastic. Some parts are hard, and others softer and can thus be deformed. The temperature goes from **500°C to 4000°C** next to the core.
- **The outer core :** it is liquid and made of iron and nickel. It is 2300km deep, and its temperature goes from **2730°C to 5000°C** near the inner core. The boundary between inner and outer core is around 5150km deep.
- **The Inner core :** unlike the outer core, the inner core is not liquid but solid. It is due to the higher pressure that forces rocks and materials to remain solid. It is a very hot ball with a radius of about 1220 km. It has almost the same composition than the outer core, iron and nickel. Its temperature goes from **5000°C to 6000°C**. The outer + inner cores occupy **15% of Earth's volume**.