

# Layers of Earth and Soil

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## Terms

Convection current-

Molten rock-

Leaching-

Weathering-

Erosion-

## Layers of Earth –

3 layers to the Earth's Crust

1. Crust
2. Mantle
3. Core

**Crust** - Part of the Earth that we live on. The crust ranges between 35-70km deep on the continents (where we live) and 5-10km of depth in the ocean. At this point you reach the bedrock. The bedrock is the bottom part of the crust.

**Mantle** – Occupies  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the Earth. It is made up of a mixture of elements: silicon, iron, magnesium, and oxygen. The mantle starts at the bottom of the crust and is about 2900km deep. The liquid rock inside the mantle churns in convection currents from the upper mantle to the lower mantle. The **upper mantle** is made of softer plastics that allow the tectonic plates of the Earth to move around. The **lower mantle** is solid and extremely hot.

**Core** – The **outer core** is Earth's only liquid layer it is about 2000km thick and it make made of molten iron and nickel. All the pressure from the outer core creates a solid ball of iron called the **inner core**.

## Questions

1. Why do you think the composition of the Earth is only a theory?
2. With all the advances in modern technology explain one reason why we still have not dug to the inner core of the Earth?