

## VOCABULARY

**asthenosphere** – the layer of the mantle on which the sections of crust move

**core** – the innermost layer or center of the earth

**crust** – the outermost layer or surface of the earth

**inner core** – the innermost layer of the core made of hot, dense, solid metals

**lithosphere** – the outermost layer of the mantle, including the crust

**magma** – minerals in the form of hot liquid rock; found in the mantle

**mantle** – the layer of iron-rich minerals surrounding the core

**outer core** – the outermost layer of the core made mainly of liquid iron and nickel

Cut a peach in half. What do you see? The peach has three layers—the pit, the flesh, and the peel. Its layers are like those of the earth. We cannot actually see the inside of the earth, but we know it is made up of three layers.

**CORE**

The **core** is the innermost layer or center of the earth. There is an **outer core** and an **inner core**. The outer core is made mainly of liquid iron and nickel. The inner core is made of hot, dense, solid metals.

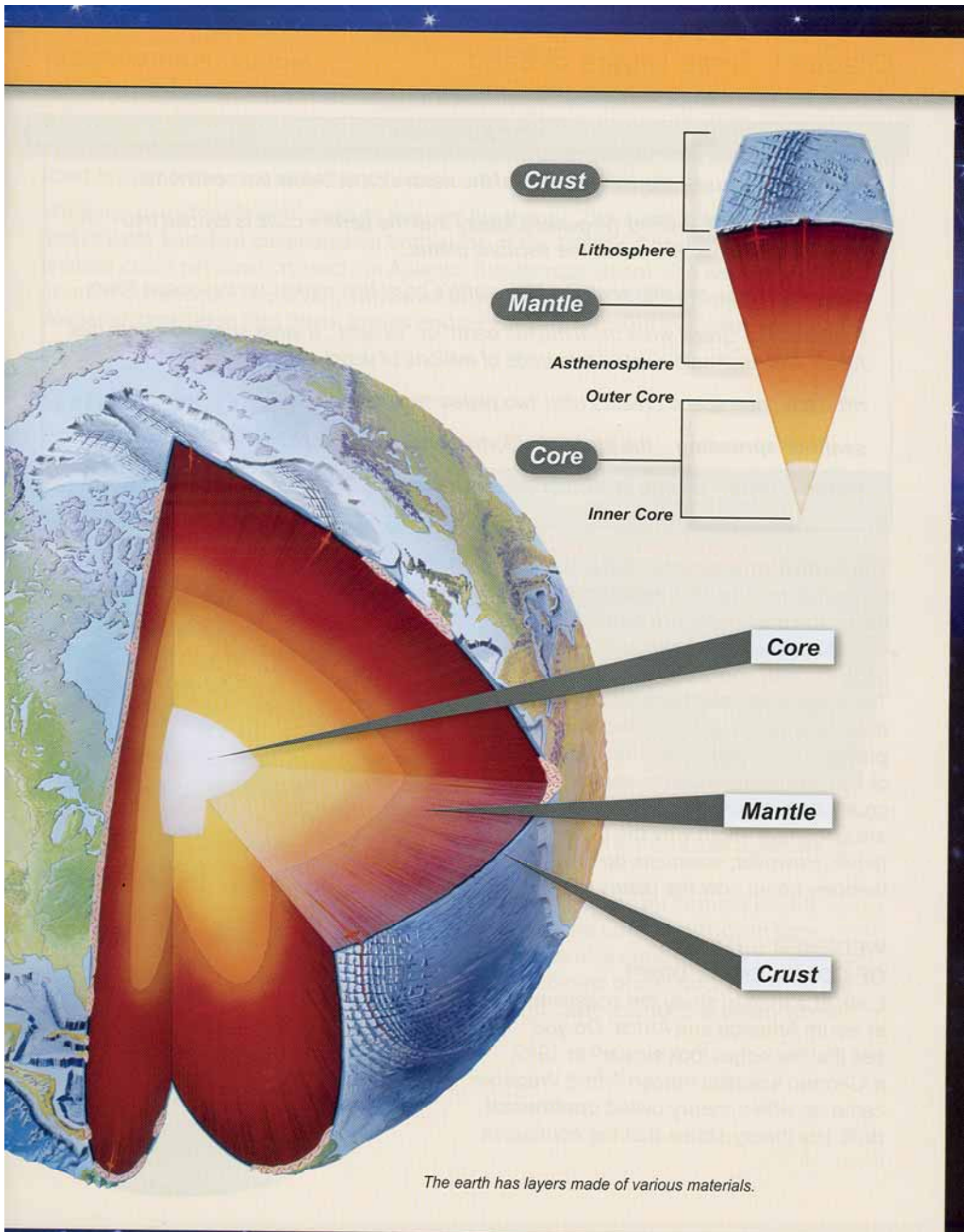
**MANTLE**

Surrounding the core is the **mantle**. This layer is made of iron-rich minerals in the form of hot liquid rock, or **magma**, and large chunks of rocks. The mantle is basically divided into two sections: the **asthenosphere** and **lithosphere**. The asthenosphere is the layer on which the sections of crust move. Even though the lithosphere contains the crust, it is also the outermost layer of the mantle.

**CRUST**

The **crust** is the outermost layer of the earth and is also the thinnest. The crust is the part of the lithosphere that is divided into large sections that fit together like puzzle pieces. They move very slowly.





The earth has layers made of various materials.