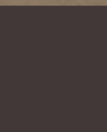
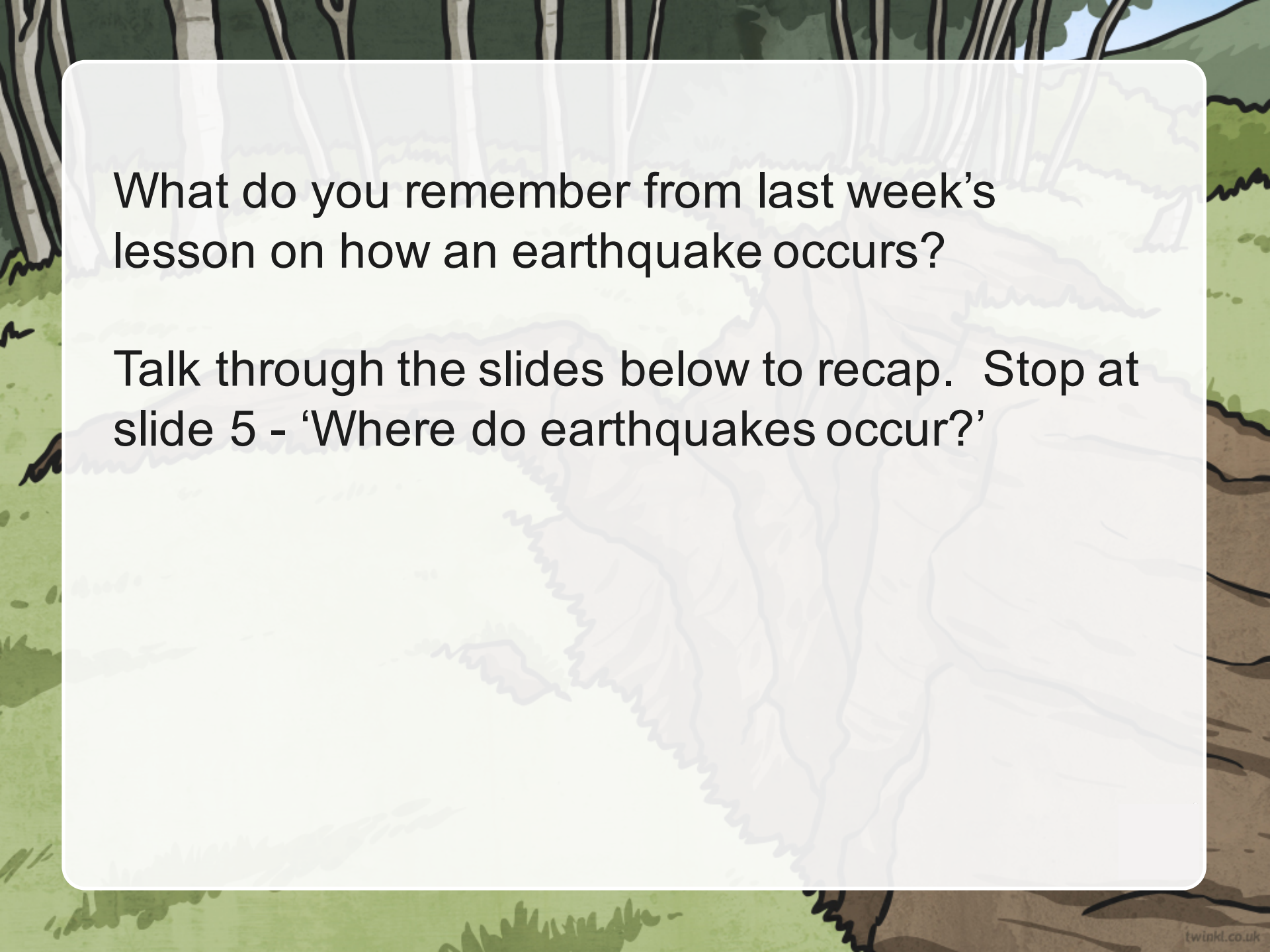


An illustration of a forest scene where a large, deep sinkhole has formed in the ground. The sinkhole is filled with brown earth and has jagged, vertical edges. In the background, there are several tall, thin trees with green foliage. The ground around the sinkhole is covered in green grass. The word "Earthquakes" is written in large, white, bold letters across the middle of the image, partially overlapping the sinkhole.

Earthquakes





What do you remember from last week's lesson on how an earthquake occurs?

Talk through the slides below to recap. Stop at slide 5 - 'Where do earthquakes occur?'

The Earth's Crust

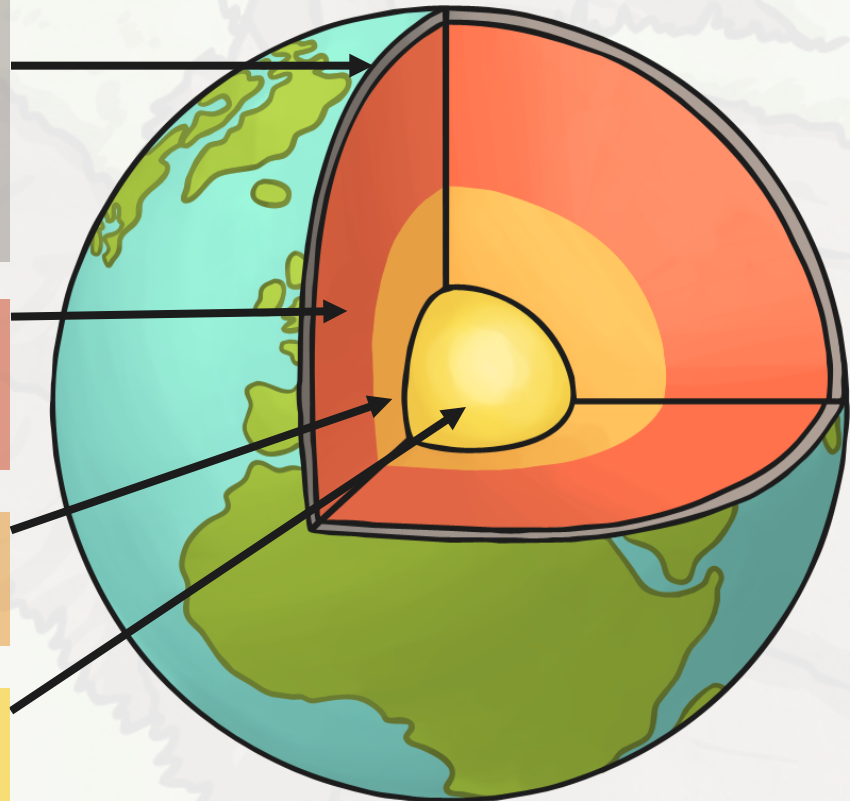
The Earth has four layers:

The crust: This is the outermost layer. The land we stand on is not just one solid piece. It is made of many pieces called plates. These plates fit together like puzzle pieces.

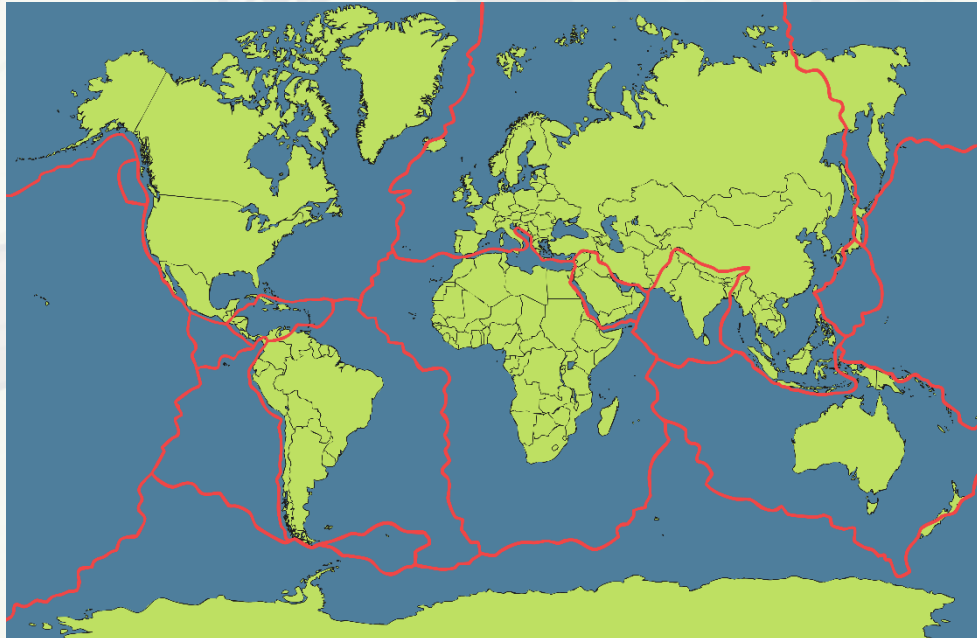
The mantle: This the widest part. It is extremely hot and is consists of semi-molten magma.

The outer core: This area is made of iron and nickel. It is very hot!

The inner core: This is the warmest layer. Temperatures can reach 5,500°C.



The Earth's Plates



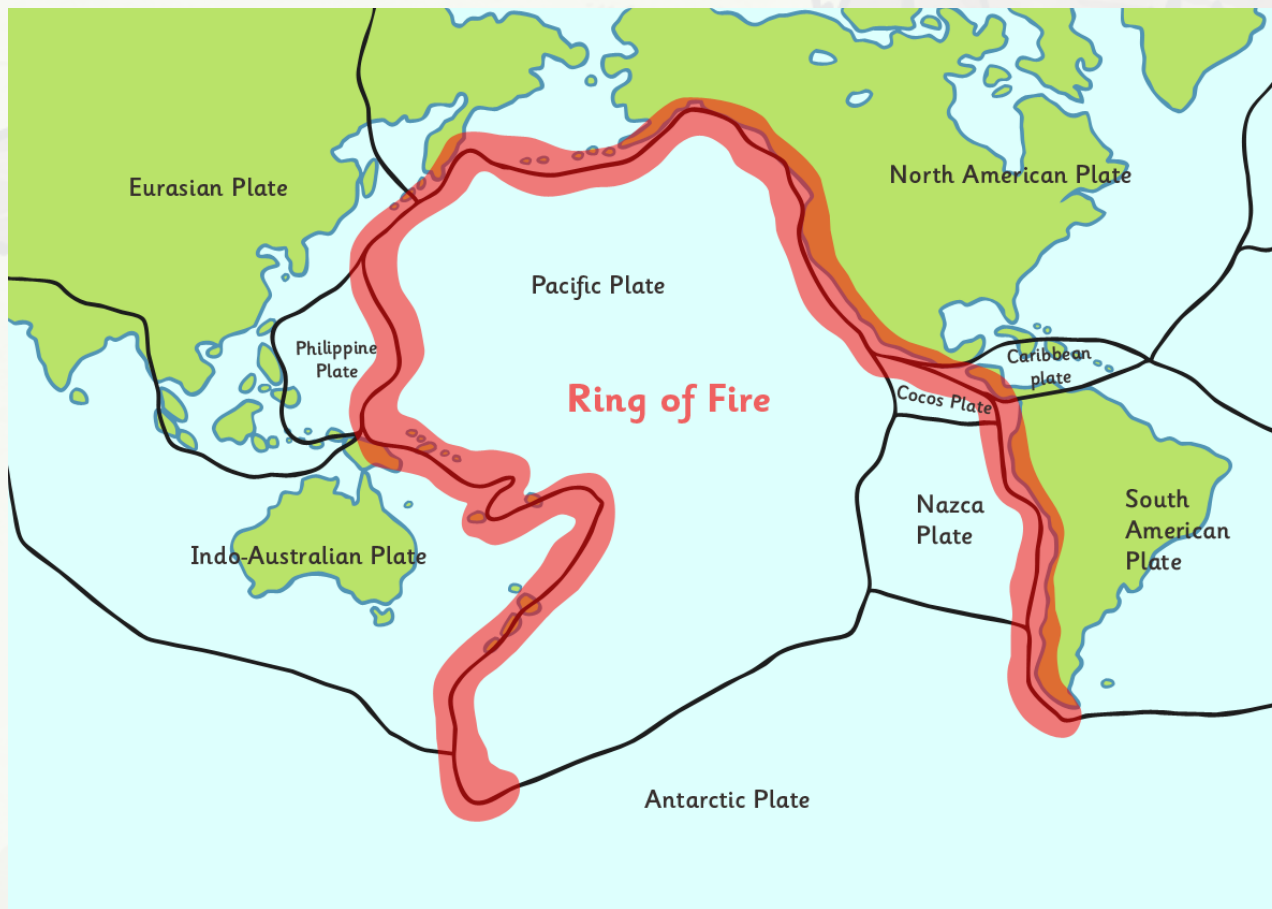
The Earth's plates are always moving. They move so slowly that we usually can't feel it.

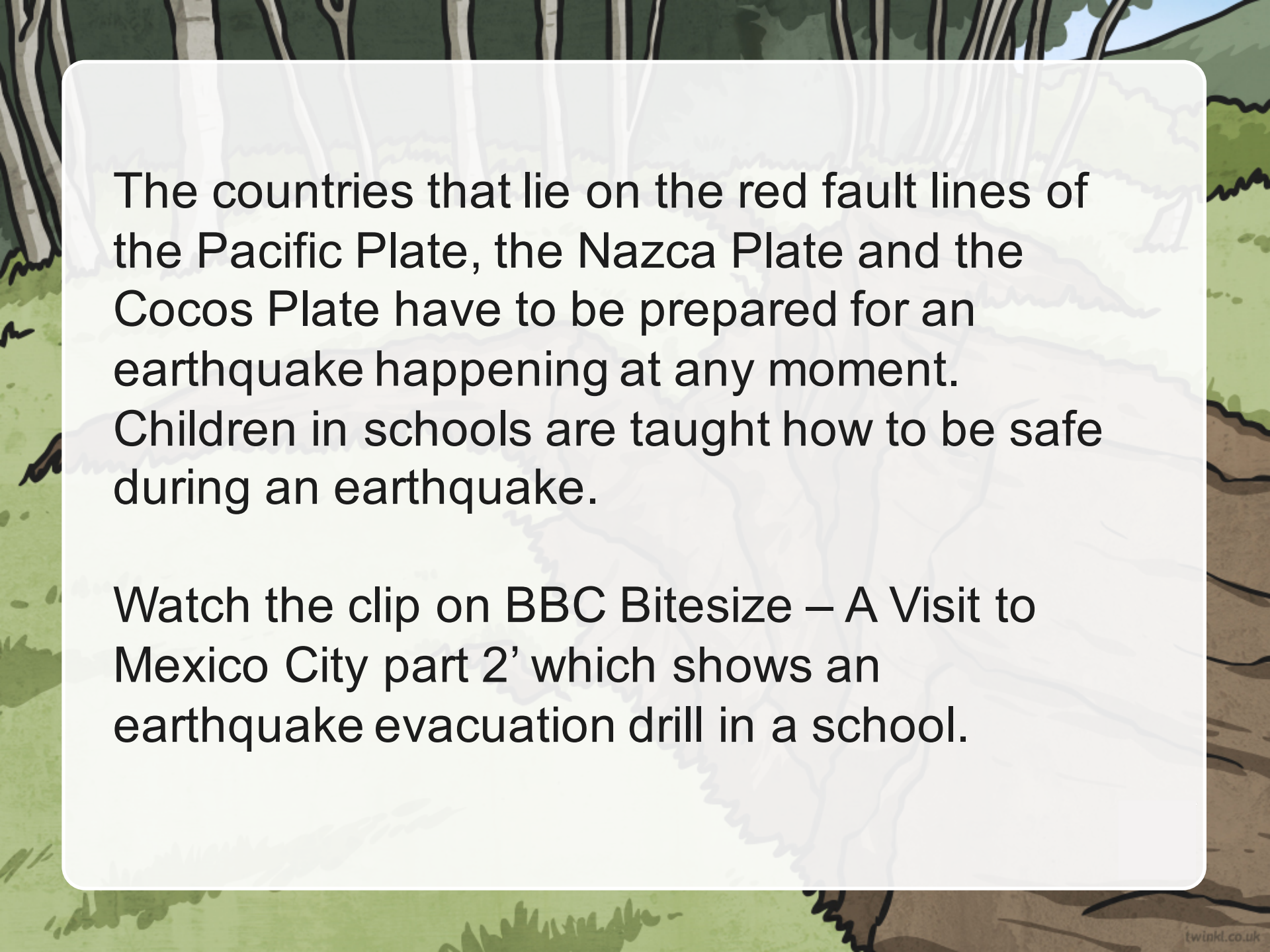
The edges of plates are called faults. Faults can rub together, push toward each other, or pull away from each other.

Have a look at the Earth's plates. What do you notice about where New Zealand is?

Where do Earthquakes Occur?

Look at the map. Earthquakes happen frequently in these areas.
What do you notice about where they happen?





The countries that lie on the red fault lines of the Pacific Plate, the Nazca Plate and the Cocos Plate have to be prepared for an earthquake happening at any moment. Children in schools are taught how to be safe during an earthquake.

Watch the clip on BBC Bitesize – A Visit to Mexico City part 2' which shows an earthquake evacuation drill in a school.

Preparing for an Earthquake

Plan

You need to have an emergency plan at home and school.
Have your survival kit or getaway kit ready to go.

Practise

At school we practise our emergency drills, we need to do this at home too.

Remember:
COVER, DROP, HOLD!

Find Safe Places

Before an earthquake make sure you know where the safe places are – under a strong table, away from glass, in a doorway, near a wall...

Preparing for an Earthquake

No one can predict when an earthquake will occur. You need an emergency plan and an emergency survival kit.

Packing an Emergency Kit:

Include the following items:

- plenty of water;
- a torch and spare batteries;
- emergency whistles;
- spare shoes and clothes;
- a first aid kit;
- a battery operated radio.

What else could you include in an emergency kit?



During an Earthquake

Inside

Drop, cover and hold, stay away from windows. Do not try to run out of the building during strong shaking, hold tight until the shaking stops.

Outside

Drop, cover and hold, try to move away from buildings, trees, power lines and street lights.
If you are near a beach, when the shaking stops, go to higher ground in case of a tsunami.

After an Earthquake

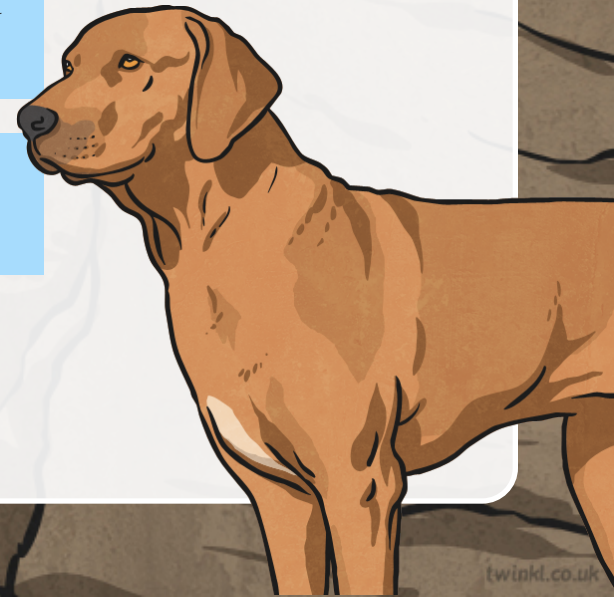
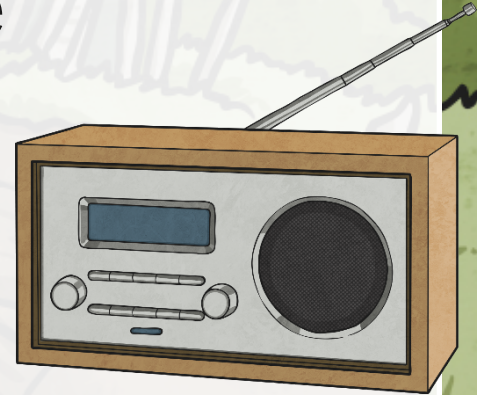
Listen to the radio for information.

Be aware of aftershocks.

Get help if you need it, see if you can help others.

Try to get outside if the building you are in is damaged.

Look after your pets, they will be scared too!





Your Task

What are the hazards of living in an earthquake prone area?

1. Watch the video clip from Espresso – earthquakes – Chilean Earthquake.
2. Discuss the damage that an earthquake can cause with a partner. For example, buildings falling down, fires, loss of power supplies, loss of homes, schools, roads, bridges. How do you think the people feel after such devastation?