

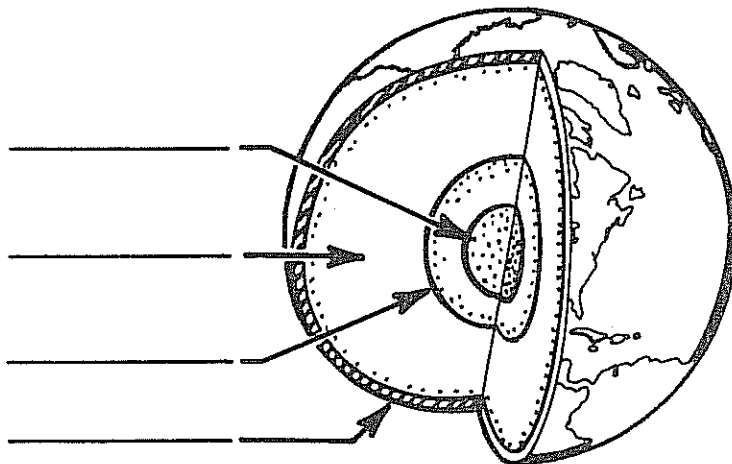
Solid to the Core?

Name _____

Like a peach, the earth has three layers. You can compare the outer layer, or **crust**, of the earth to the peach's skin. It is a thin crust of hard rock, from 5 to 70 kilometers thick.

Beneath the crust is the **mantle**. Like the fleshy part of the peach, it is the thickest layer. The mantle is made of very hot rock that is not liquid, but plastic-like and soft. The mantle is almost 3,000 kilometers thick.

The innermost layer of the earth, the **core**, is like the peach's pit. The **outer core** is liquid and most likely made of iron. The outer core is about 2,000 kilometers thick. The **inner core** is solid and seems to be made of iron and nickel. The inner core is 1,500 kilometers thick.



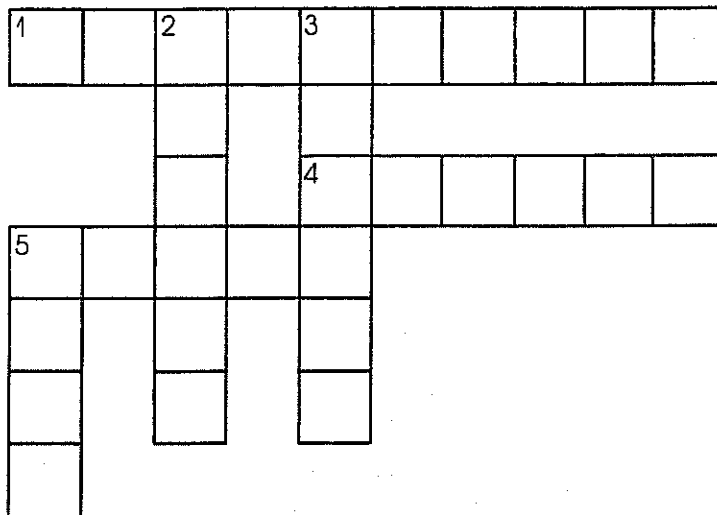
- Use the words in bold above to label the layers of the earth.
- How far is it from the surface to the center of the earth? _____
- Solve the puzzle below.

Across

- The earth is nearly 13,000 _____ in diameter.
- The inner core is made of iron and _____.
- The thinnest layer of the earth.

Down

- The outer core is made of _____ iron.
- The thickest layer of the earth, made of hot rock.
- The innermost layer of the earth.



Fun Fact

Nobody has ever drilled or dug through the earth's crust to the mantle. Much of the information we have has been obtained by using a seismograph to measure earthquake waves.