

Inside the Earth

3rd Grade

Four layers, from the rock under your feet to the solid centre.

Earth is not solid rock all the way through. It is four layers, each very different.

Layer	What it is like	Roughly
Crust	thin, solid rock — we live on it	5–70 km thick
Mantle	hot, slowly flowing rock	2,900 km thick
Outer core	liquid iron and nickel	2,200 km thick
Inner core	solid iron, hotter than the Sun's surface	1,200 km radius

The moving liquid outer core is what gives Earth its magnetic field — and makes compasses work.