

# Vocabulary #4

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Magnitude	Earthquake size is a quantitative measure of the size of earthquake at its source.
Seafloor Spreading	Formation of new oceanic crust, created as magma from the mantle rises in between plates or ridges and spreads out.
Pangaea	Hypothetical supercontinent that existed when all continents were joined from 300 to 200 million years ago.

Focus	Location where the earthquake begins.
Epicenter	The point on the Earth's surface located directly above the focus.
Reverse Fault	When the hanging wall rises relative to the footwall. Occurs in areas undergoing compression or squishing.
Strike Slip Fault	A fault in which the rock strata are displaced mainly in a horizontal direction.

Normal Fault	When the hanging wall has moved downward relative to the footwall. Occurs where two blocks of rock are pulled apart by tension.
Ring of Fire	Major area around the Pacific Ocean where a large number of earthquakes and volcanic eruptions occur.
Continental drift	The gradual movement of the continents across the Earth's surface through geological time.