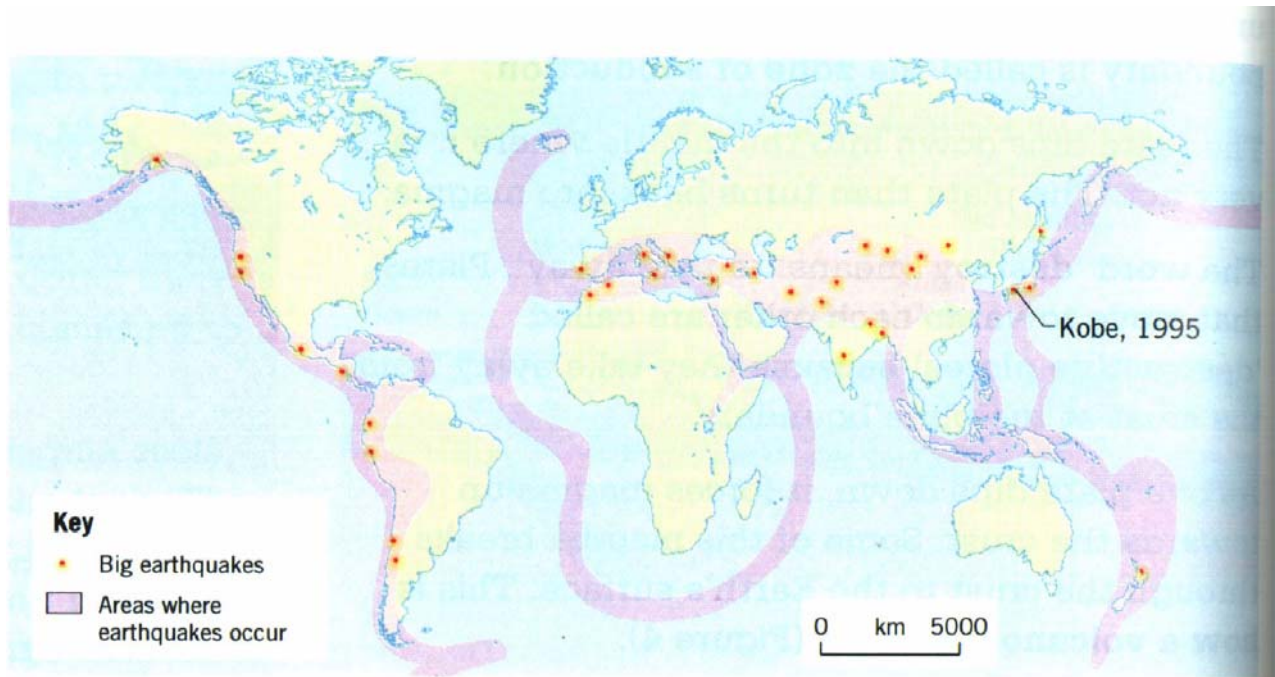
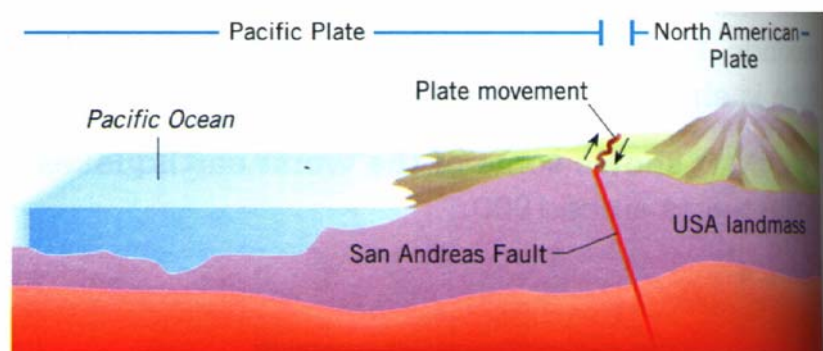


EARTHQUAKES



An earthquake is a shaking of the land. There is an earthquake when two plates scrape along each other in opposite directions or when one plate is pushed under another. This means that most of the earthquakes in the world are along plate boundaries. This map shows where most of the earthquakes have been in the world. If you look at your map with the plates, you will see the similarity of the two maps.



One of the most well known faults is in the west of the USA. It is called the San Andreas Fault. The cities of Los Angeles and San Francisco lie on this fault. It is where the North American Plate moves past the Pacific Plate.

On 17 January 1994, there was a big earthquake near Los Angeles, and 54 people were killed.