

The lithosphere --- The solid crust is made up a large number of plates. These plates are called lithospheric plates. They move around very slowly just a few millimeters each year. Their movement is because of the movement of the molten magma inside the earth. The molten magma inside the earth moves in a circular manner.

The lithospheric plates have the following features

- Some of them are small in size whereas many of them are large – sized.
- They are rigid.
- They are irregularly shaped plates (slabs)

They carry continents and the ocean floor

The movement of the lithospheric plates is responsible for the changes on the surface of the earth. The earth movements are divided on the basis of the forces that cause them.

QUESTION

- (1) Write the features of lithospheric plates.
- (2) What do you mean by lithosphere?
- (3) Where is molten magma found?

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(24- 5-2020)