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Geology Glossary

Caldera	a pit like depression located in some of the summits of volcanoes
Calving	when icebergs are formed by glaciers breaking off into the ocean
Carbonaceous	a substance that contains carbon
Carbonate	mineral that contains calcium carbonate
Chalk	a soft form of limestone
Chert	a fine grained quartz mineral that is extremely hard
Clast	a fragment of rocks
Clastic rock	sedimentary rock made up from other rocks
Conglomerate	sedimentary rocks that are composed of coarse and fine grained rock fragments
Coal	fossil fuel formed by the dead remains of forest plants
Conglomerate	course grained sedimentary rocks
Continent	a landmass that is composed of a light, granitic rock
Continental drift	a thought that the continents have drifted across the surface of the Earth since time began
Continental glacier	a sheet of ice that covers a portion of a glacier
Continental margin	an area that is between the shoreline and abyss, and represents the edge of a continent
Continental shelf	the area that is offshore of the continent in a shallow sea
Continental shield	considered to be the ancient crustal rocks on which the continents grew