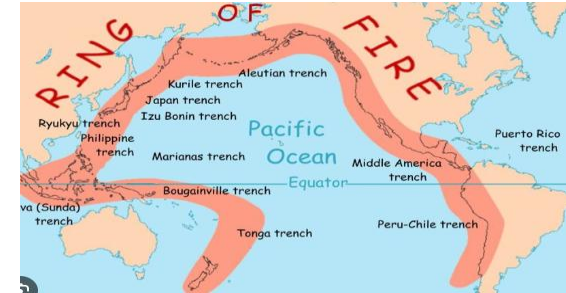


# Year 5 Merlins Geography Spring 2

## New Zealand and the South Pacific

### What is the Ring of Fire?

The Ring of Fire is a path about 40,000 km long and up to about 500 km wide and surrounds most of the Pacific Ocean.. The majority of Earth's active volcanoes and earthquakes take place along it.



### Where is New Zealand?

New Zealand is an island country in the southwestern Pacific Ocean.



It consists of two main landmasses: the North Island and the South Island, and over 700 smaller islands. The islands of New Zealand were the last large habitable land to be settled by humans. The Polynesians began to settle between 1280 and 1350 AD



Key Vocabulary	Definition
<b>biome</b>	A community of plants and animals that have shared characteristics due to the environment they live in.
<b>climate</b>	Climate is the long-term weather pattern in a region, typically averaged over 30 years.
<b>Commonwealth</b>	A group of countries that used to be part of the British Empire, but now voluntarily work together on issues such as human rights.
<b>Haka</b>	Ceremonial dances from the Māori culture. They have vigorous movements and are performed by a group of people.
<b>kiwi bird</b>	Kiwi are flightless birds endemic to New Zealand.
<b>mantle</b>	The mantle lies between Earth's dense, super-heated core and its thin outer layer, the crust.
<b>Māori</b>	The indigenous Polynesian people of mainland New Zealand.
<b>New Zealand</b>	New Zealand is an island country in the southwestern Pacific Ocean. It consists of two main landmasses—the North Island and the South Island—and over 700 smaller islands.
<b>Pacific Ocean</b>	The Pacific Ocean is the largest and deepest of Earth's five oceanic divisions. It extends from the Arctic Ocean in the north to the Southern Ocean in the south
<b>Ring of Fire</b>	The Ring of Fire is a tectonic belt of volcanoes and earthquakes.
<b>Southern cross</b>	The southern cross is a constellation in the sky above New Zealand in the southern hemisphere. It also features on the flag of New Zealand.
<b>subduction zone</b>	Subduction is a type of plate interaction when one plate sinks into the mantle and another plate is left on top. The area this takes place is called the subduction zone.

### Maori People and the Haka

Traditionally, the Māori people of New Zealand performed the haka to display a tribe's pride, strength and unity. The haka is known as a war dance used to fire up warriors on the battlefield. It's also a way to celebrate, entertain, welcome and challenge visiting tribes. The New Zealand All Blacks perform a Haka at the start of every rugby match.



### The kiwi bird

Kiwi birds are a national icon in New Zealand and are a native species. They have hair-like feathers, short legs and nostrils at the end of their long beaks allowing them to smell prey before they see it.

