

Tectonic Plates

- I could teach it
- I somewhat get it
- I need to learn this



Glue this side into your notebook



The things I should know before 8th grade:

- Properties of materials can change
- Forces can change the motion of an object
- Rocks have characteristics related to the environment in which they form
- Thermal energy is a measure of the motion of the atoms and molecules in a substance and can be transferred through radiation, convection, and conduction
- Energy can be transformed, transferred, and conserved

The most basic things I should know after this unit:

- Earth's crust consists of major and minor tectonic plates that move relative to each other
- The theory of plate tectonics describes how the rigid tectonic plates move with the molten rock and magma beneath them in the upper mantle
- Convection currents in the crust and upper mantle cause the movement of the plates
- Energy that powers convection currents comes from deep within Earth
- There are 3 main plate boundaries: convergent, divergent, and transform
- Each plate boundary moves in a different way and causes events

I know...

- a. that tectonic plates are a part of Earth's lithosphere (Earth's rigid rock layer of crust and upper most part of the upper mantle)
- what Alfred Wegner's basic ideas were about continental drift
- the difference between continental drift and plate tectonics
- b. what convection currents are
- the relationship between density and temperature of matter
- the role of density in the movement of plates and the resulting features or events
- c. the different types of plate boundaries and how they move
- the different features or events that can occur at the different types of plate boundaries

I can...

- a. use historic evidence (*such as continental "puzzle-like-fit", paleoclimate data, paleomagnetic data, continental drift, convection theory, and sea floor spreading*) to describe how scientists first began to understand plate tectonics
- use current evidence (*seismic data, GPS/GIS data of plate movement and rates of change, robotic studies of the sea floor, and further exploration of Earth's interior*) to describe how scientists have changed understandings of Earth's interior to the current theory of plate tectonics
- b. use major tectonic features (*like Hawaii hot spot, San Andreas fault, Ring of Fire, Mid-Atlantic Ridge, Mariana Trench, New Madrid Fault System*) as evidence to explain the relationship between Earth's thermal energy (*convection currents*) and the movement of plates
- c. use data (*maps, cross-sections, models, and other data*) to categorize, identify, and predict the type of plate boundary and the kind of movement at the boundary
- use data (*maps, cross-sections, models, and other data*) to categorize, identify, and predict the resulting feature or event at a plate boundary

Vocabulary to Master

<input type="checkbox"/> reference point	<input type="checkbox"/> relative motion	<input type="checkbox"/> convection	<input type="checkbox"/> magma
<input type="checkbox"/> tectonic plate	<input type="checkbox"/> continental drift	<input type="checkbox"/> convergent	<input type="checkbox"/> divergent
<input type="checkbox"/> paleomagnetism	<input type="checkbox"/> GPS/GIS	<input type="checkbox"/> transform	<input type="checkbox"/> subduction zone
<input type="checkbox"/> paleoclimate	<input type="checkbox"/> sea floor spreading	<input type="checkbox"/> continental plate	<input type="checkbox"/> volcano
<input type="checkbox"/> earthquake/seismic	<input type="checkbox"/> tsunami	<input type="checkbox"/> magma plume	<input type="checkbox"/> upper mantle
<input type="checkbox"/> geyser	<input type="checkbox"/> hot spring	<input type="checkbox"/> lithosphere	<input type="checkbox"/> asthenosphere
<input type="checkbox"/> oceanic vent	<input type="checkbox"/> island arc	<input type="checkbox"/> crust	<input type="checkbox"/> fault
<input type="checkbox"/> hot spot	<input type="checkbox"/> rift valley	<input type="checkbox"/> oceanic plate	<input type="checkbox"/> plate boundary