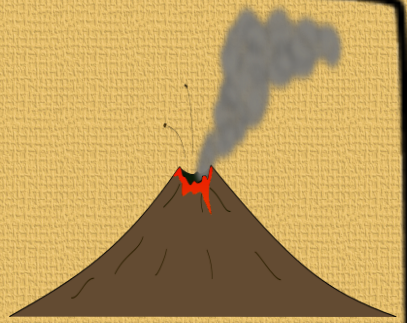


# FORCES THAT SHAPE THE LAND

PLATE TECTONICS



# DIRECTIONS:



This packet goes along with my plate tectonics powerpoint. After viewing the powerpoint, students are to complete this activity sheet.

1. Start by cutting out all of the information cards.
2. Once the information cards have been cut, students are to arrange the card in the proper categories. It is either going to fall under the heading of divergent boundary, convergent boundary, or transform boundary. There are 5 cards that will go under each category.
3. Once the student finds the 5 cards that go under each category they are to glue them on top of the five empty spots on that sheet.
4. Following this task there are reinforcement questions to answer under each type of plate movement. I have found, while teaching 5<sup>th</sup> graders, that if you repeat some of the questions it will cause further understanding as well as allowing students to self check their work.

This movement causes plates to move apart and make a crack in the Earth's crust

This movement causes some of the highest mountains to form when the plates crash into each other

In this movement, the Earth's plates shift past each other in a sliding motion

If land moves between a crack caused by plates moving apart it forms a Rift Valley

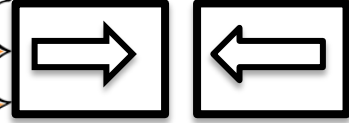
Example:  
Himalayas, Alps, Andes, Rocky Mountain were formed by this movement

This sliding motion of the plates can cause major earthquakes

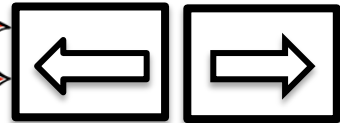
Earth's plates move apart leaving an opening in the surface that allows melted rock, ash, and gas to escape- Volcano

Earth shakes as the plates crash into each other causing an earthquake

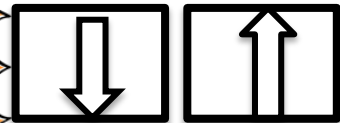
Example:  
San Andreas  
Fault was  
formed by this  
movement.



Many of these  
boundaries are  
found under the  
ocean and can  
form volcanic  
islands



If the plates  
crash one can go  
under the other  
and can open up  
Earth's hot  
interior which  
can erupt



You most likely  
won't find  
volcanoes here  
because the  
plates do not  
crash into each  
other

# DIVERGENT BOUNDARY

1

2

3

4

5

1. Explain how the plates move along a Divergent Boundary. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. What is a volcano? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Explain how this type of movement can create volcanic islands. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# TRANSFORM BOUNDARY

1

2

3

4

5

1. Explain how the plates move along a Transform Boundary. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Why are you not as likely to find volcanoes along these plate boundaries? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# CONVERGENT BOUNDARY

1

2

3

4

5

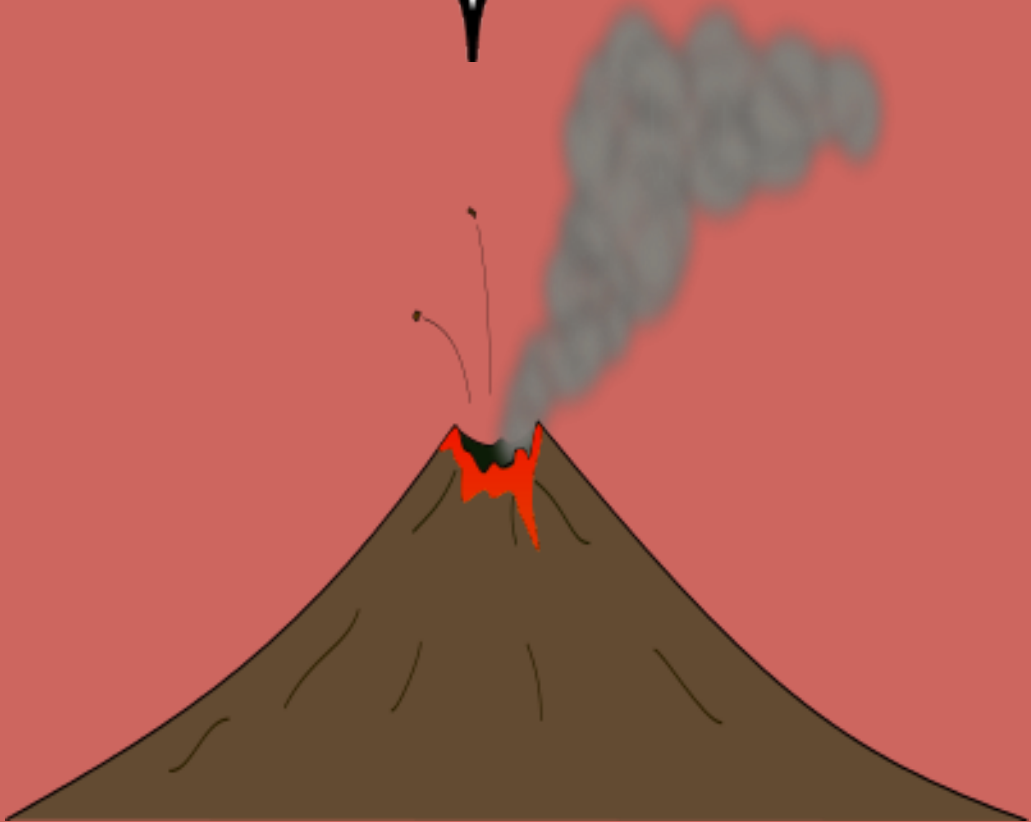
1. Explain how the plates move along a Convergent Boundary. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. What is an earthquake?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Why do you think the highest mountains form from this type of movement? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ANSWER

KEY:





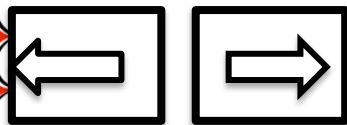
# DIVERGENT BOUNDARY

This movement causes plates to move apart and make a crack in the Earth's crust

If land moves between a crack caused by plates moving apart it forms a Rift Valley

Earth's plates move apart leaving an opening in the surface that allows melted rock, ash, and gas to escape- Volcano

Many of these boundaries are found under the ocean and can form volcanic islands



1. Explain how the plates move along a Divergent Boundary. The plates move apart from each other and leave a crack in the Earth's surface.
2. What is a Volcano? A volcano is an opening in the Earth's surface that allows melted rock, ash, and gas to escape.

2. Explain how this type of movement can create volcanic islands. Volcanic islands often form when mountains start to build up from the ocean floor. As the land opens up a volcano erupts, lava pours out, cools and repeats until a mountain is formed above the ocean.

# TRANSFORM BOUNDARY

In this movement, the Earth's plates shift past each other in a sliding motion

This sliding motion of the plates can cause major earthquakes

You most likely won't find volcanoes here because the plates do not crash into each other

Example: San Andreas Fault was formed by this movement.



1. Explain how the plates move along a Transform Boundary. Plates shift past each other in a sliding motion along a transform boundary.

2. Why are you not as likely to find volcanoes along these plate boundaries? You are not as likely to find volcanoes here because the plates slide past each other and do not crash into each other. Therefore, the Earth is not being dug into as much as it is in the other plate movements.

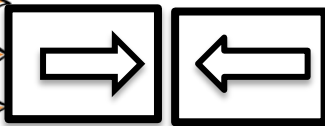
# CONVERGENT BOUNDARY

This movement causes some of the highest mountains to form when the plates crash into each other

Example: Himalayas, Alps, Andes, Rocky Mountain were formed by this movement

If the plates crash, one can go under the other and can open up Earth's hot interior which can erupt.

Earth shakes as the plates crash into each other causing an earthquake



1. Explain how the plates move along a Convergent Boundary. Plates crash into each other in this type of movement.
2. What is an earthquake? A shaking that can be felt on the earth's surface due to movement of the Earth's plates.

2. Why do you think the highest mountains form from this type of movement? The highest mountains form in this type of movement because the Earth's plates are constantly pushing on each other and squeezing new rock upward into new folds.

# CREDITS:

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