

The Earth's Crust - One Big Puzzle!!!



The Earth's crust is made up of many individual pieces, called tectonic plates. These plates are constantly moving. Where one plate meets another we get a boundary. Some plates are moving toward each other (convergent boundary), while others move away from each other (divergent boundary). When two plates slide past one another we get a third type of boundary, called a transform boundary.

The purpose of this activity is to identify each of the Earth's tectonic plates and the understand the boundaries between them.

Procedure:

1. From the two attached pages cut out each of the Earth's plates. The more carefully you cut, the more nicely your "pieces" will fit together.
2. On a piece of construction paper, arrange and label each plate in its proper location. Do not use your book. Notice the location of the continents. This should be helpful in placing some of the larger plates and naming them. Then you can fill in the smaller ones. I have provided the name of each plate on the following page along with some hints about location and boundary types.
3. For some boundaries, you will use arrows to show the boundary type. The arrows will look like this:

