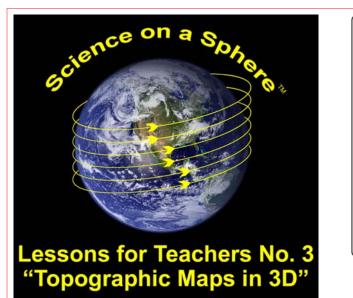
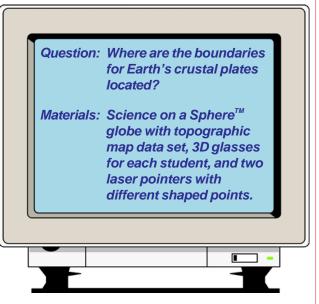
Topographic Maps in 3D







Procedure Preliminary

(Instruct students to move to the daytime side of the Sphere and sit in two rows facing the Sphere and perpendicular to it.)

(Distribute 3D glasses to the students.)

Primary - Part A

The teacher should review the names of continents and oceans for the students. Also, review the names for a sampling of countries on each continent and island locations on the oceans. Use the laser pointer.

Primary - Part B

(This is a relay game to see which team of students can identify locations of Earth's plate boundaries faster.)

- 1. Give a laser pointer to the first student in each row.
- 2. The teacher calls the name of a location that is on the nighttime side of Earth.
- 3. As the named location approaches Earth's daytime terminus, have the first two students stand up with their pointers on and ready.



Lessons for Teachers No. 3



- The first student whose pointer touches the correct location on the Sphere and follows it through the daytime rotation gets the point for his or her team.
- 5. As the named location recedes towards Earth's terminus, the students who played move to the back of the line and the next students prepare to repeat the process.
- 6. Practice once or twice before beginning the game.
- 7. Repeat sites that you want students to remember.

Locations to be identified. (Add any other interesting locations.)

- ➡ Mountain chain from Alaska south to tip of South America
- ➡ Mid-Atlantic Ridge
- ➡ New Zealand
- ➡ Red Sea Rift
- ➡ Continental Shelf off eastern U.S.
- ➡ Continental Shelf along the Bering Strait
- ➡ East Pacific Rise
- ➡ 90 Degree East Ridge
- ➡ Mt. Everest
- ➡ Mariana Trench

Primary - Part C

The teacher should explain that...



A "Hot Spot" is magma that rises from the Earth's mantle to produce a volcano at the surface. It is not along a plate boundary. The Hawaiian Islands are forming above a "Hot Spot". As the Pacific plate moves northwesterly over the spot, new islands form in a chain. (Notice that the Hawaiian Islands are a chain.)

Ask a student to use the laser pointer to trace the underwater seamounts (islands under the surface of the water) northwest of Hawaii that were once above the "Hot Spot".



Primary - Part D

The teacher should have students take turns using a laser pointer to trace the following major plate boundaries on the Sphere.



(Guide students through the process of locating the plate boundaries. For example, to locate the African plate boundaries, have a student use the laser pointer to point



to the Mid Atlantic Ridge and trace it to the Indian Ocean, through the Red Sea Rift and the Mediterranean Sea, then back to the Mid Atlantic Ridge. Use the "Plate Tectonics" map towards the end of this lesson to help you identify the plate boundaries beforehand.)

- ➡ African
- \Rightarrow North American
- ➡ Eurasian
- \Rightarrow South American
- ➡ Antarctica
- ➡ Australian

(If students successfully find the above major boundaries, then have them trace the following smaller plate boundaries using the same procedure.)

- ➡ Arabian
- ➡ Scotia
- ➡ Nazca
- ➡ Juan de Fuca
- ➡ Philippine

Primary - Part E

Tell students about four main ways that plate boundaries form. Use the laser pointer to identify examples of each as you talk.

- 1. Converging tectonic plates where two plates come together usually forming mountains Example: the Himalayan Mountains between the Indian and Asian plates.
- 2. Diverging tectonic plates where two plates pull apart Example: the Mid Atlantic Ridge.
- 3. Subducting tectonic plates where one plate slides beneath another Example: the Pacific plate slides beneath the South American plate sometimes forming volcanoes (Andes Mountains).
- 4. Transverse fracturing of tectonic plates where areas next to one another move at different speeds and/or in opposite directions scraping past one another to form fracture zones Example: the San Andreas Fault near San Francisco.

(The next section might be difficult for middle school students who have not students plate tectonics. Therefore, ask the group as a whole to call out answers. Be sure to give them the correct response after they answer.)



Lessons for Teachers No. 3



Ask students to identify the following geologic or oceanic characteristics as being formed by converging, diverging, or subducting plates, or a transverse fracture zone.

- 1. Mountain chain from Alaska, south, to the tip of South America (Hint: Volcanoes form many of these mountains.)
- 2. Mid Atlantic Ridge. (Hint: The Atlantic Ocean is growing wider between its east and west boundaries.
- 3. Red Sea Rift (Hint: The Red Sea Rift is growing larger.)
- 4. East Pacific Rise (Hint: Mountains beneath the ocean.)
- 5. 90 Degree East Ridge
- 6. Mt. Everest
- 7. Mariana Trench
- 8. Mendocino Escarpment



Conclusion

(Ask students to answer the question stated at the beginning.)

Earth's crust is divided into plates that form a continuous system of cracks along plate boundaries that are visible in satellite images from space.

These boundaries occur in:

- \Rightarrow the middle of oceans;
- \Rightarrow along the edges of continents; and
- \Rightarrow less frequently within continents.



Answer Key For "Procedure - Part E"

1.	Subducting	2.	Diverging. Larger	3.	Diverging
4.	Converging	5.	Diverging	6.	Converging
7.	Diverging	8.	Transverse fracture zone		

NOAA - NOAA Research - Forecast Systems Laboratory



Information on the theory of Plate Tectonics to help students and teachers with this lesson.

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