



Name: _____

Class: _____ Date: _____

The Earth's Moving Beneath Me

An activity of "Discovering lost continents"

Can you imagine huge land masses as large as the continents we know — underwater? **"Discovering lost continents"** (*What's Up* May 2020) tells the amazing story of how these are being discovered and why only now. Read it carefully.

Using the helping words from the table below, fill the gaps in the statements to find out how much you know about plate tectonic theory.

Himalayas	tsunamis	energy	uplift	transform
tectonic	surface	subduction	mantle	Juan de Fuca Plate
divergence	mountains	crust	minor	built
lithosphere	major	sideways	volcanoes	molten
fault	rift	Pacific Plate	collide	earthquakes

1. The Earth's _____ is what all the oceans and land sit on.
2. The crust is not a single land mass but a set of gigantic irregular pieces of huge rock which are called _____ plates.
3. These plates move around as if floating over the _____ core of the earth which is called the mantle. They move at extremely slow speeds of about 0.6 cm/year to 10 cm/year.
4. The plates make up Earth's outer shell. This outer shell consists of the crust together with the uppermost part of the _____ and is called the _____.
5. There are seven _____ and eleven _____ plates. The largest is the _____ which is 103,300,000 km². The smallest is the _____ which is 250,000 km².
6. At times, plates on which land masses sit _____, pushing against each other with such force that the land crumples and moves upward to form _____ and _____. This is called an _____. The _____ is an example.
7. At other times, when the plates collide, one plate slides beneath the other. This is called _____. This can cause earthquakes and _____.
8. Sometimes when the plates collide, they move _____, rubbing against each other. This is called the _____ movement.
9. Another type of movement is when the plates move away from one another. This is called _____. When this happens, the land between the plates sink and forms a _____ valley.
10. When moving plates lock against each other during a collision, they cause _____ lines to form. When the plates rub against each other in this locked position, a tremendous amount of _____ is _____ up beneath the plates. When this energy finally pushes its way to the _____, the force creates _____.