

PLATE TECTONICS

The Earth's surface is divided into moving plates that interact at their boundaries.

CONVERGENT BOUNDARY (CONTINENT-CONTINENT)

Two continental plates collide, causing the crust to crumple and mountains to form.

DIVERGENT BOUNDARY (OCEANIC-OCEANIC)

Plates move apart, magma rises up, and new oceanic crust forms.

CONVERGENT BOUNDARY (OCEANIC-CONTINENTAL)

The denser oceanic plate subducts under the continental plate, causing volcanoes to form.

MOUNTAIN FORMATION

LITHOSPHERE
(CRUST & UPPER MANTLE)

ASTHENOSPHERE
(DUCTILE MANTLE)

NEW OCEANIC CRUST FORMS

VOLCANIC ACTIVITY

CONVECTION CURRENTS

Heat from the core causes mantle material to flow, moving the plates.

EARTHQUAKES

Plates can get stuck due to friction. When they suddenly slip, it causes earthquakes.

EARTHQUAKE

