

Plate tectonics

FACTS I KNEW AT THE START AND THEN NOW

They move on the mantle
They are part of the crust
Plates are usually 60 miles thick
The Large continents look like they fit together
They have moved with convection currents back and forth 3 times in the earths history

Most earthquakes are placed near the join of tectonic plates

Most volcanic activity occurs near the join of tectonic plates

The friction builds up where they rub and releases to create an earthquake

The friction builds up because they are rubbing together

There are different types of plate boundaries

There is room for magma to come up.

Earthquakes are most common on transform plate boundaries

Convergent, divergent and transform

Convergent boundaries create hills and mountain ranges!

OPEN ENDED QUESTIONS

How do they move

They move with convections currents under the earths crust in the mantle. Convection currents are when hot things rise and cold things sink creating a circle-like current that moves them.

There are patterns in that they have moved and come together in approximately the same place 3 times in the earths history

Are there patterns in how they move? What are they?

How do they move such a great mass

Convection currents move the plates with the power of heat!

Are there different types of plate boundaries?

Yes there are: convergent plate boundaries, when the plates are coming together, divergent plate boundaries, when the plates are moving apart, transform plate boundaries, when the plates are sliding past each other.

Do they make volcanos erupt?

Yes, they do. When 1 tectonic plate is rubs against another, it causes friction that creates magma. When the magma rises to the surface it creates a volcano. Every time enough pressure has built up, it will erupt.