

## Pdf free Plates tectonics and continental drift answer key [PDF]

plate tectonics theory dealing with the dynamics of earth's outer shell that revolutionized earth sciences by providing a uniform context for understanding mountain building processes volcanoes and earthquakes as well as the evolution of earth's surface and reconstructing its past continents and oceans article continental drift versus plate tectonics a scientific idea that was initially ridiculed paved the way for the theory of plate tectonics which explains how earth's continents move grades 5-8 subjects earth science geology geography physical geography image alfred wegener in greenland plate tectonics plate tectonics refers to the process of plate formation movement and destruction it finds its foundations in two theories continental drift and sea floor spreading continental drift describes the movements of continents over the earth's surface sea floor spreading refers to the creation new oceanic plate material and tectonic plates are composed of the oceanic lithosphere and the thicker continental lithosphere each topped by its own kind of crust along convergent plate boundaries the process of subduction carries the edge of one plate down under the other plate and into the mantle plate tectonics is a scientific theory that explains how major landforms are created as a result of earth's subterranean movements the theory which solidified in the 1960s transformed the earth sciences by explaining many phenomena including mountain building events volcanoes and earthquakes in plate tectonics earth's outermost earth's lithosphere is broken up into tectonic plates which move slowly over time evidence like matching coastlines and same species fossils on different continents support this a plate boundary is where two tectonic plates meet geologists studying the earth use scientific observation and evidence to construct a picture of what the earth looked like at different periods in the geologic past use this map gallery to better understand how plate tectonics created the ocean and continents we are familiar with today plate tectonics diastrophism convection current paleocontinent watch earth's continents move from 650 million years ago to 250 million years in the future tectonics embraces as its chief working principle the concept of plate tectonics q v a theory that was formulated in the late 1960s by american canadian and british geophysicists to broaden and synthesize the notion of continental drift and the seafloor spreading hypothesis qq v changes in the global distribution of metamorphic p t conditions in the continental crust through time might therefore reflect the secular evolution of earth's tectonic processes key points earth's lithosphere or outermost shell is broken up into large pieces called tectonic plates these plates move slowly over the asthenosphere a layer of softer rock below the lithosphere on average tectonic plates move a few centimeters per year the place where two plates meet is called a plate boundary key points there are two types of tectonic plates oceanic and continental oceanic plates make up the ocean floor continental plates make up the continents both oceanic and continental plates are topped by crust on average oceanic crust is denser than continental crust according the theory of plate tectonics earth's outer shell is made up of a series of plates the map above shows names and generalized locations of earth's major tectonic plates these plates move and interact with one another to produce earthquakes volcanoes mountain ranges ocean trenches and other geologic processes and features another type of convergent plate boundary is when two continental plates collide continental lithosphere is low in density and very thick continental lithosphere cannot subduct so when two continental plates collide they just smash together the building of volcanic islands and continental material through plate tectonics is a process that continues today continental crust is much lighter than oceanic crust in subduction zones where tectonic plates interact with each other oceanic crust always subducts beneath continental crust continental drift describes one of the earliest ways geologists thought continents moved over time today the theory of continental drift has been replaced by the science of plate tectonics the theory of continental drift is most associated with the scientist alfred wegener earth's tectonic plate boundaries are unusual because they can consist of continent and ocean crust here are the 7 major tectonic plates of the world in a bit more detail 1 pacific plate the pacific major plate is the largest which underlies the pacific ocean continental margins typically fall into two classes active and passive an active continental margin is a coastal region that is characterized by mountain building activity including earthquakes volcanic activity and tectonic motion resulting from movement of tectonic plates

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plate tectonics plate tectonics refers to the process of plate formation movement and destruction it finds its foundations in two theories continental drift and sea floor spreading continental drift describes the movements of continents over the earth s surface sea floor spreading refers to the creation new oceanic plate material and

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tectonic plates are composed of the oceanic lithosphere and the thicker continental lithosphere each topped by its own kind of crust along convergent plate boundaries the process of subduction carries the edge of one plate down under the other plate and into the mantle

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plate tectonics is a scientific theory that explains how major landforms are created as a result of earth s subterranean movements the theory which solidified in the 1960s transformed the earth sciences by explaining many phenomena including mountain building events volcanoes and earthquakes in plate tectonics earth s outermost

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earth s lithosphere is broken up into tectonic plates which move slowly over time evidence like matching coastlines and same species fossils on different continents support this a plate boundary is where two tectonic plates meet

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geologists studying the earth use scientific observation and evidence to construct a picture of what the earth looked like at different periods in the geologic past use this map gallery to better understand how plate tectonics created the ocean and continents we are familiar with today

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changes in the global distribution of metamorphic p t conditions in the continental crust through time might therefore reflect the secular evolution of earth s tectonic processes

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key points earth s lithosphere or outermost shell is broken up into large pieces called tectonic plates these plates move slowly over the asthenosphere a layer of softer rock below the lithosphere on average tectonic plates move a few centimeters per year the place where two plates meet is called a plate boundary

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the building of volcanic islands and continental material through plate tectonics is a process that continues today continental crust is much lighter than oceanic crust in subduction zones where tectonic plates interact with each other oceanic crust always subducts beneath continental crust

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