Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_



**Drifting Continents:**

* In 1912, Alfred Wegener proposed that all continents once fit together.
* However, he couldn’t explain how they moved

 Example: South America and Africa

**Plate Tectonics:**

It was only in the 1960s that scientists discovered that the Earth’s crust is made up of rigid plates that float on the asthenosphere

**asthenosphere**:

 The upper layer of the earth's mantle, below the lithosphere

**Why do these plates move?**

* They move because of convection
* Magma is heated and then rises
* It cools when it reaches the surface
* Cooler magma then sinks

Convection Demo: Draw what you observe (use colour)



**Types of Movement:**

(Sketch each type) 

Three types:

* Move apart

(Divergence)

* Move toward each other

(convergence)

* Slide against each other

 (transform fault)

**What happens when two plates hit each other?**



* If the crust is formed in one place, it must \_ disappear elsewhere\_
* Example: Nazca Plate sinking under South American Plate.
* Sometimes, the two colliding plates are too thick for one to sink underneath the other.
* When this happens, mountain ranges are formed

**Volcanoes:**

* Volcanoes are any type of natural opening in the Earth’s crust through which lava, gas, steam and other material is spewed.



**Volcanic Eruptions:**

* Volcanoes can form when an oceanic plate sinks under a continental plate.
* The oceanic plate melts and becomes magma.
* This magma then tries to rise up.
* Volcanic eruptions can also occur when two plates move apart.
* These eruptions are less violent since there is no resistance.

**Positive Effects of Volcanoes:**

* Fertilize the soil.
* Magma can heat water and allow for geothermal energy.
* Example: geysers

**Earthquakes:**

* Friction between two tectonic plates produces shock waves.
* These shock waves, called *seismic waves* can damage structures.
* When earthquakes occur at the boundaries of oceanic plates, a *tsunami* can occur.