

Name: _____ Date: _____

Beat the Heat: Tectonic Plate & Volcano Challenge for 4th Grade

Prove you can track shifting tectonic plates and identify eruption patterns before the lava flows! Match landforms to the movements that create them.

1. Imagine the Earth is like a giant puzzle. What do scientists call the massive, moving pieces that make up the Earth's outer shell?

- A. Ocean bubbles
- B. Tectonic plates
- C. Magnetic clouds
- D. Mountain roots

2. True or False: Most earthquakes happen in the middle of a plate rather than along the edges where plates meet.

- A. True
- B. False

3. When two plates push against each other and the ground crumples upward, it often forms a _____.

- A. Deep canyon
- B. Mountain range
- C. Sandy desert
- D. Grassy plain

4. What is the name for the liquid rock that is found *underground* before a volcano erupts?

- A. Lava
- B. Ash
- C. Magma
- D. Core

5. True or False: Underwater volcanoes can erupt and eventually grow so tall that they form new islands.

- A. True
- B. False

6. An earthquake's vibrations travel through the ground in the form of _____.

- A. Seismic waves
- B. Wind gusts
- C. Light beams
- D. Water tides

7. Which tool do scientists use to measure and record the strength of an earthquake?

- A. Thermometer

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- B. Seismograph
- C. Telescope
- D. Barometer

8. True or False: Tectonic plates move very quickly, about the same speed as a car driving on a highway.

- A. True
- B. False

9. A volcano that has not erupted in a long time but might erupt again in the future is called _____.

- A. Extinct
- B. Active
- C. Dormant
- D. Static

10. What often forms at a divergent boundary where two plates are pulling apart from each other?

- A. A giant forest
- B. A rift valley
- C. A glacier
- D. A sand dune