



PLATE TECTONICS

5th, 6th and
High School Grades

DESCRIPTION

The Earth's crust is continually shifting, crashing, and spreading, creating various geologic happenings. Explore our restless earth through the many displays in the Weinman Mineral Gallery, including our Magic Planet and our large floor model of the cross section of Earth. Program will run for 1.5 hours.

30 MINUTES – GALLERY TIME

- Anatomy of the Planet
- Earthquake & Volcano Displays
- Iris Display (shows current seismic activity worldwide)
- The Magic Planet

30 MINUTES

- Gem Panning
- Careers in Geology

30 MINUTES - LAB

- Study plate movement from Pangaea to 50 million years into the future
- Discuss how planet Earth's crust is divided into numerous plates that move
- Students will understand through various manipulatives: plate movement, subduction zones, rift valleys, convergent, divergent, transform boundaries and hot spots

TAKE HOME ITEMS

- Keep the gemstones found in Gem Panning

REVISED 09.17.20