

Aim 20: What is the geological theory of Pangaea? What is plate tectonics?

HW: Read p38 to 40 in your textbook then answer #2 a. b. and c. on p 43.

Do Now: Do you know what happens when the plates that make up earth's crust shake?

**(Ms Beesch's School Website view
all our notes and every slide!
You need microsoft power point
or adobe reader to open them on
your computer.)**

<http://esmtis190.wikispaces.com/Ms.+Beesch>

DATELINE

EXT

FRANKFURT, GERMANY, JANUARY 6, 1912

Scientist Alfred Wegener sent out shock waves today when he proposed a radical new hypothesis. The continents were once joined together as one huge landmass. In time, he suggests, pieces of this landmass broke away and drifted apart.

Wegener calls this super-continent *Pangaea*. To support his theory, Wegener points out that the continents seem to fit together.

He notes, for example, that the east coast of South America fits snugly against the west coast of Africa. Mountain ranges continue across both continents as smoothly as the lines of print across torn pieces of a newspaper.

Other scientists reject Wegener's claim. They say that they know of no force strong enough to cause continents to move.



Movement • Seven continents were once one continent. A continent is a landmass on earth. ▲

Pangaea- is a geological scientific theory that a long time ago all the continents on Earth were connected to form one huge super continent called Pangea.

Pangaea

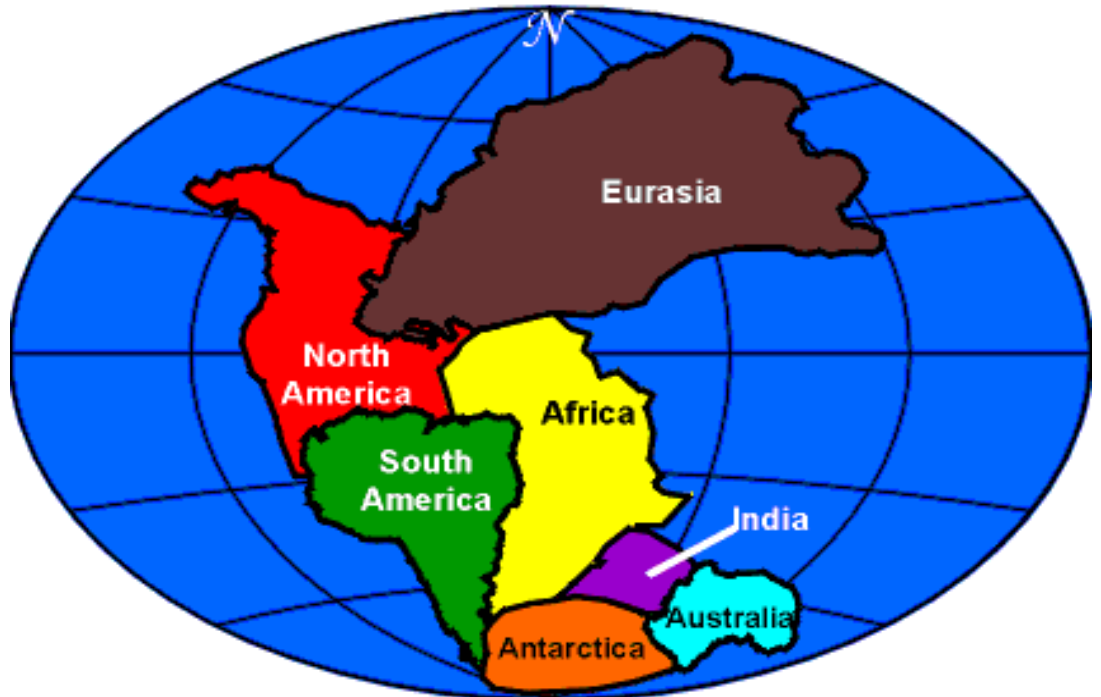
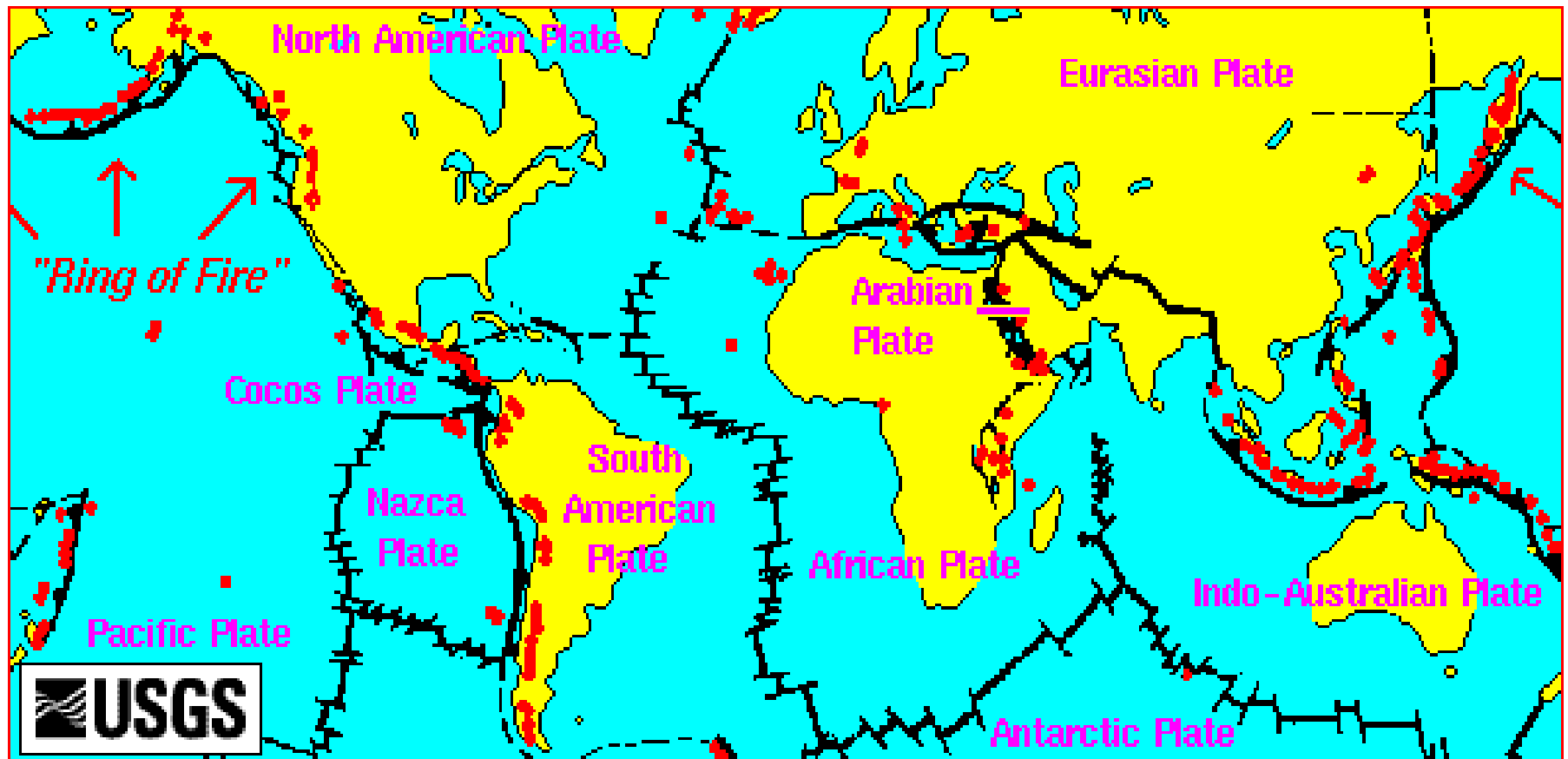


Plate tectonics- a theory that Earth's crust is made of moving and shifting tectonic plates.



-These plates constantly shift and move along fault lines(where they meet) sometimes they cause volcanoes to erupt, mountains to form, huge tsunamis waves in the ocean or cause earthquakes-a sudden shaking of the Earth's surface.

(Volcanic eruptions in the USA. First is Mt. Saint Helens in Washington state, it famously erupted on in 1980 the deadliest eruption in the history of the United States. Second is Kilauea, an active volcano in Hawaii.)



Earthquake in China in May 2008



Tsunami! A huge wall of water!



Cause	Effect (Which geographic features are formed?)
Plates Collide	
Plates Separate	
Plates Slide	

1. Partner work complete the graphic organizer showing causes and effects of moving tectonic plates.

2. Independent Work: Write a great paragraph on this topic: Which geographic features have you noticed that people like to live by?