



# Plate Tectonics: Student Activity Sheet

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Part 1: The Puzzle

1. What do you notice about the puzzle? Does it look like anything you recognize? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What do you notice about the pieces and the continents? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Part 2: Moving Plates

1. What do you notice about where some of the Earth's mountain ranges and ridges are?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Slide the Pacific Plate north and the North American Plate south.  
What happens to the edges where the plates grind together? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Find the **South American** and **African Plates**. These two plates are moving apart in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean. Move these two plates slightly apart.  
What is happening to the far sides of these plates? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Slide the Nazca Plate under the South American Plate.  
What happens to the South American Plate? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Find the **Eurasian Plate** and the **Indo-Australian Plate**. These two plates collide without one plate sliding under the other. Both plates push each other up to form the Himalaya Mountains. Push the edges of the two puzzle pieces together without one sliding under the other.  
What happens? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_