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Activities

Mountains of the Sea

Name: _____ Date: _____

The ocean's mountains are born from magma rising in cracks in Earth's crust on the bottom of the sea. Some reach the surface and form volcanic islands, but most remain out of sight. You'll find out why they're so important in this Planet Diary activity.

Directions

- What are the mountains on the ocean floor like? To find out, go to Seamounts.
- Use the video controls to pause or rewind the program. As you advance through the video, answer Workspace questions 1 through 4.
- Click *Global Impact* above the viewing window. Watch the video about the importance of seamounts and threats they face. Then answer the last two questions.

Workspace

1. What are "hot spots"?

2. Why are most undersea volcanoes found along the edges of Earth's tectonic plates?

3. Why are seamounts called "biological storehouses"?

4. How do seamounts affect life in the oceans in the waters above?

5. What's the biggest threat to life on seamounts?

6. How do trawling nets harm ecosystems on seamounts?

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