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Activities

Exploring Mid-Ocean Ridges

Name: _____ Date: _____

The planet's longest mountain range is found under the oceans. Mid-Ocean Ridgestretche for thousands of miles, snaking around and between continents. In this Planet Diary, you'll dive down deep to explore them.

Directions

- Look at this map of Mid-Ocean Ridges. Then answer question 1 in the Workspace.
- Check out a topographic map of the ridge. Read the caption, then answer question 2.
- Watch this sea-floor spreading animation to see how the ridge forms. Answer question 3.
- This view includes magnetic striping. Look closely at these stripes to answer question 4.
- Where do magnetic stripes come from? Go to Ocean Floor Mapping. Scroll to *Magnetic Striping and Polar Reversals*. Use the information to answer the last two questions.

Workspace

1. What is happening to Earth's tectonic plates along Mid-Ocean Ridges?

2. What do "warm" and "cool" colors on the map show?

3. What does the animation show?

4. What feature appears on sea-floor spreading animation?

5. What's the difference between normal and reversed polarity of rocks?

6. Explain why magnetic stripes along the sea-floor display a matching "zebra" pattern on either side of the Mid-Ocean Ridges.

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