

3rd Grade Dynamic Planet – Plate Tectonics (30 Minutes - Based on Team Schedule)

These rules will be in effect for both the 3rd and all grades' sessions. If 3rd graders attend the 3-5 student sessions, they will not receive scores for the 3rd grade session. 4th and 5th graders may not attend the 3rd grader session.



Description: Teams will demonstrate their understanding of plate tectonics and how it relates to continental drift. This event has a written test and may/may not include “hands-on” stations.

Participants per Team: 2

Spirit of the competition:

- It is a rules violation if coaches, parents, mentors, or spectators enter the competition area. Talking to the team members any time during the competition. Violation of this rule will place the team below all other teams.

Teams need to bring: Pencils.

Safety Requirements: None

The Competition:

Teams will answer questions on a written test. Topics may include but not limited to:

- Mechanical & Chemical division of Earth’s layers
- Driving forces of plate tectonics
- Plate boundaries & features found at plate boundaries
- Understanding of continental rifting, seafloor spreading, Island arcs, Back-arc basins, Mountain building, Polar wandering
- Evidence of plate tectonics
- Identification of major tectonic plates

African Plate	Cocos Plate	North American Plate
Antarctic Plate	Eurasian Plate	Pacific Plate
Arabian Plate	Indian Plate	Philippine Plate
Australian Plate	Juan de Fuca Plate	Scotia Plate
Caribbean Plate	Nazca Plate	South American Plate

Scoring:

- Points will be awarded for each correct response.
- Ties will be broken by the accuracy or quality of answers to select questions chosen by the event leader prior to the competition.

Possible Resources:

Division A will not release previous tests, or the exact resources used by the Event Supervisor or test writer for any events. The listed resources are meant as a starting point. It is up to the competitor to research further.

- [SciOly - Dynamic Planet/Tectonics](#)