

Name _____

The Incredible Puzzle of Plate Tectonics

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Geologists might look for evidence like the matching shapes of continents, similar rock formations, and the distribution of earthquakes and volcanoes along plate boundaries to support the theory of plate tectonics.
2. It's important for scientists to study plate tectonics to better understand natural disasters like earthquakes and volcanic eruptions, which can help save lives and property. Additionally, studying plate tectonics helps us comprehend the Earth's history and how it continues to change.
3. One famous mountain range formed by the collision of continental plates is the Himalayas. The Himalayas are known for their towering peaks, including Mount Everest, and they have significant cultural and geological importance.
4. The movement of tectonic plates can affect the distribution of natural resources by creating conditions for the formation of mineral deposits, oil reservoirs, and fertile soils in specific regions. It can also lead to the destruction or alteration of these resources through geological events.

