🌊 Lesson Plan: Earth's Oceans

Grade Level: 5
Subject: Earth Science
Duration: 45–60
NGSS 5-ESS2-1: Develop a model using an example to describe ways the geosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, and/or atmosphere interact.

🎯 Learning Objectives

By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

- **Identify** key features of the ocean floor, such as the continental shelf, abyssal plain, and mid-ocean ridge.
- **Describe** the causes of ocean currents and tides.

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of the Moon and the Sun.

💼 Materials Needed: (all links are included in this PDF)

- Printed copies of the Study Guide (https://newpathworksheets.com/api/guide/study-guide-science-grade-5-earth-s-oceans.pdf)
- Practice Worksheet 0 (https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-5-earth-s-oceans-0.pdf)

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- Practice Worksheet 1 (https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-5-earth-s-oceans-1.pdf)
- Vocabulary Set 1 (https://newpathworksheets.com/api/vocabulary/vocabulary-science-grade-5-earth-s-oceans-1.pdf)
- Vocabulary Set 2 (https://newpathworksheets.com/api/vocabulary/vocabulary-science-grade-5-earth-s-oceans-2.pdf)

Lesson Procedure

Step 1: Introduction (5 minutes)

- Hook students by asking: "Have you ever wondered what the bottom of the ocean looks like, or why the water level changes at the beach?"
- Show the Earth and Moon diagram from the Study Guide to introduce the concept of gravitational pull and tides. (https://newpathworksheets.com/api/guide/study-guide

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similar terms like continental slope and continental rise.

Step 4: Independent Practice (15 minutes)

- Have students complete Practice Worksheet 1 to independently label the ocean floor diagram and answer related questions. (https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-5-earth-s-oceans-1.pdf)

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- Provide Vocabulary Set 2 as an additional independent matching activity for early finishers. (https://newpathworksheets.com/api/vocabulary/vocabulary-science-grade-5-earth-s-oceans-2.pdf)

Step 5: Assessment (10 minutes)

- Use Practice Worksheet 0 as a short quiz to assess understanding of ocean tides, currents, and basic ocean floor geography. (https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-5-earth-s-oceans-0.pdf)
- Review the quiz answers as a class, clarifying any remaining misconceptions.

Differentiation Strategies

For advanced learners:

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- Conduct a simple evaporation experiment with salt water to simulate how oceans leave behind salt and act as a natural resource.

Complete List of Available Resources:

- NewPathWorksheets: Earth's Oceans (https://newpathworksheets.com/science/grade-5/earth-s-oceans)

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- Study Guide (https://newpathworksheets.com/api/guide/study-guide-science-grade-5-earth-s-oceans.pdf)
- Practice Worksheet 0 (https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-5-earth-s-oceans-0.pdf)
- Practice Worksheet 1 (https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-5-earth-s-oceans-1.pdf)
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EARTH'S OCEANS

Oceans as a Natural Resource

Oceans are a natural resource for the salt (that you eat on your fries) and the fish and other sea animals we eat (like tuna fish sandwiches).

Ocean Currents

Oceans are ALWAYS moving because of currents and tides. Currents on the surface of the ocean are caused by wind. Currents move large amounts of water great distances.

Ocean Tides

Tides are the periodic rising and lowering of the ocean levels.

Tides are created because the Earth and the Moon are attracted to each

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Lesson Checkpoint:
What causes ocean currents?

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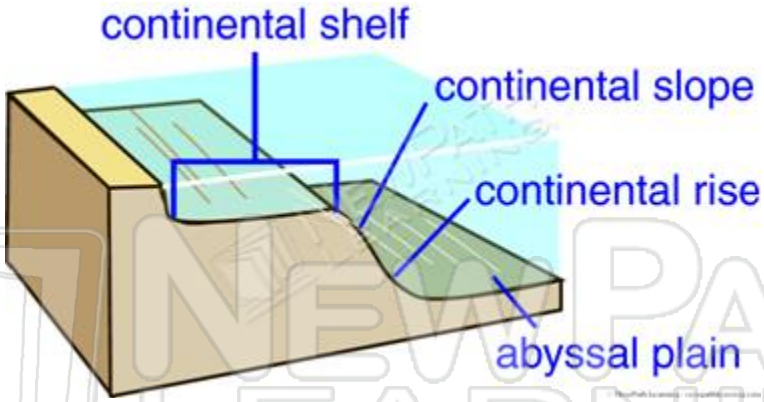
The Continental Shelf



The sandy beach extends from the area you build sandcastles upon into the ocean onto an area called the**continental shelf.** The water above the continental shelf is most often shallow. The continental shelf gradually goes downward and eventually leads to a sharp drop, known as the **continental**

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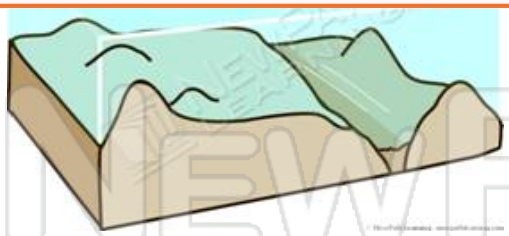

Seamounts

A **seamount** is a mountain rising from the ocean seafloor that does not reach to the water's surface. It is a mountain under water.

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Trenches

An **ocean trench** is a long depression in the ocean floor that has steep sides.

Lesson Checkpoint: What is a seamount?

Mid-Ocean Ridge

The **mid-ocean ridge** is a series of long, underwater mountain ranges on the ocean floor. The mid-ocean ridge extends through the North and South Atlantic, the Indian Ocean, and the South Pacific.

How do scientists explore the ocean?

Remote controlled submarines can go places where humans can't….way

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As you go deeper into the ocean, there is little to no light which means it is COLD and that there are no plants for food and not many other organisms to eat either!

Lesson Checkpoint:
Why do most sea organisms live in the epipelagic zone in the ocean?

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Ocean pollution

Oil spills, toxic waste, litter, and other harmful materials dumped into the ocean in some way are all major causes of water pollution. Pollution in the ocean harms and kills ocean organisms. Ocean pollution can also indirectly affect our health and take away our resources – like the ones we mentioned at the very beginning of this tutorial—the salt and the food sources in the ocean.

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Earth's oceans

Sci E

Name_____ Class_____ Date_____

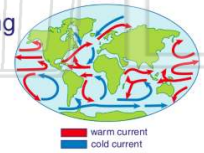
1 Which of the following statements supports the fact that people use **oceans** as a **natural resource** for certain products?

A Many people drink eight glasses of water daily.
B Many people enjoy eating tuna fish.
C Many people eat chicken as a source of protein.
D Many people drink milk as a source of calcium.

2 **Atlantic, Pacific, Indian, Southern, and Arctic** are all names of _____.

A rivers
B lakes
C oceans
D bays

3 Which of the following occurs because of **ocean tides** and **currents**?



A Oceans are always above 30°C.

4 Which statement is true of **ocean currents**?

A They cause tides to occur three times a day.
B They only move the top layer of ocean water.
C They move huge amounts of water long

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5

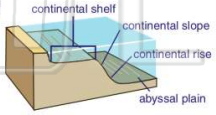
7

Earth
D the Sun

Earth

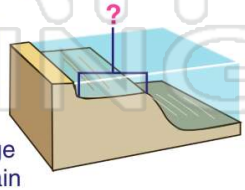
B causes the stars to come out at night
C allows the weather to be warm on Earth
D causes Earth to be suitable for living

9 Imagine you just ran into the ocean and the water is up to your waist. On what **part of land** within the ocean are you standing upon?



A the continental slope
B the continental rise
C the continental shelf
D the abyssal plain

10 Which **area of the ocean** is marked with a **?** on the diagram below?



A the continental slope
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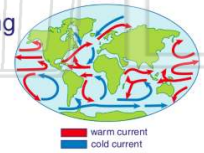

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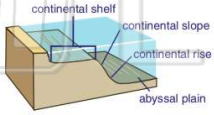

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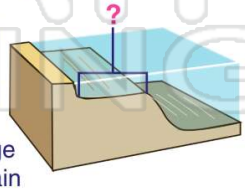

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Earth's oceans

Sci E

Name_____ Class_____ Date_____

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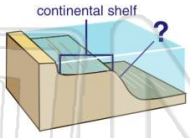
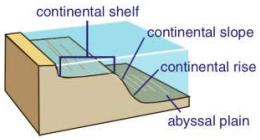
C shoreline
D continental slope



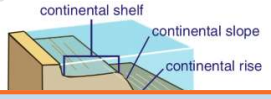
2 Where can the **continental rise** be found?



A under the abyssal plain
B above the continental shelf
C just beyond the continental slope
D just beyond the continental shelf

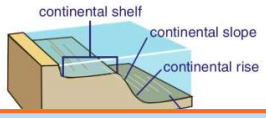
3 What **covers** most of the **flat abyssal plains** in the ocean?

A mountains
B seamounts
C a thick layer



4 The **flat abyssal plains** can be found in depths of _____ deep.

A 60 meters
B 600 meters
C 6,000 meters



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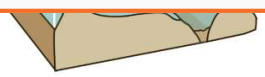
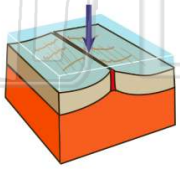
C trenches
D slopes

D mid-ocean ridge

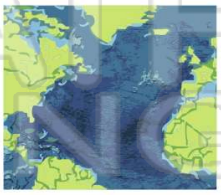


9 The arrow is pointing to an area of the ocean floor where **new oceanic crust** is formed by the quick cooling of **magma** coming from a crack. What is the name of this area?

A abyssal plain
B seamount
C trench
D mid-ocean ridge



10 A **mid-ocean ridge** can be described as _____.



A a tall seamount
B an underwater crater
C an underwater mountain peak
D an underwater mountain chain

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Earth's oceans

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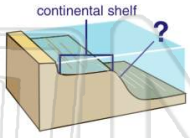

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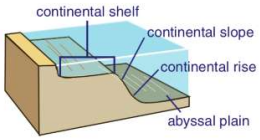

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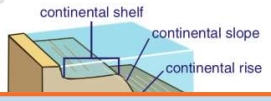

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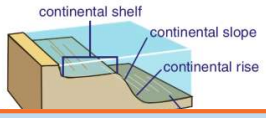

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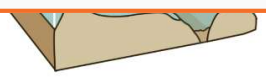
C trenches
D slopes

D mid-ocean ridge



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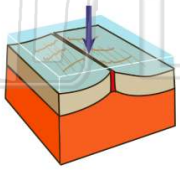

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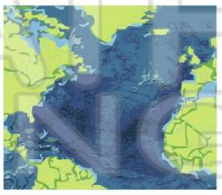

A a tall seamount
B an underwater crater
C an underwater mountain peak
D an underwater mountain chain

D

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Earth's oceans

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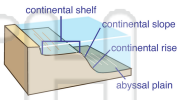
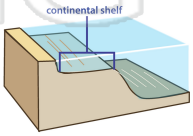
Match each of the following terms to its definition:

Seamount	Continental shelf	Continental rise	Flat abyssal plains
Continental slope	Epipelagic zone	Mid-ocean ridge	Ocean trench

1. - found at the base of the continental slope and extending to the abyssal plain



2. - the region of the ocean floor that begins at the shoreline and gradually deepens toward the open ocean



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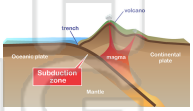
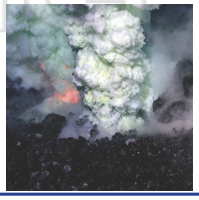
depression in the ocean floor that has steep sides

7. - a deep trench at some continental margins where an oceanic tectonic plate is subducted under a continental tectonic plate



8. - an underwater mountain with volcanic origins



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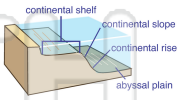
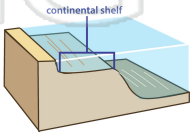
1. continental rise - found at the base of the continental slope and extending to the abyssal plain



2. continental shelf - the region of the ocean floor that begins at the shoreline and gradually deepens toward the open ocean



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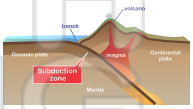

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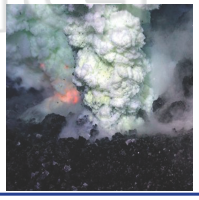

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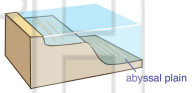
Tide	Ocean trench	Seamount	Flat abyssal plains
Continental shelf	Continental slope	Mid-ocean ridge	Continental rise

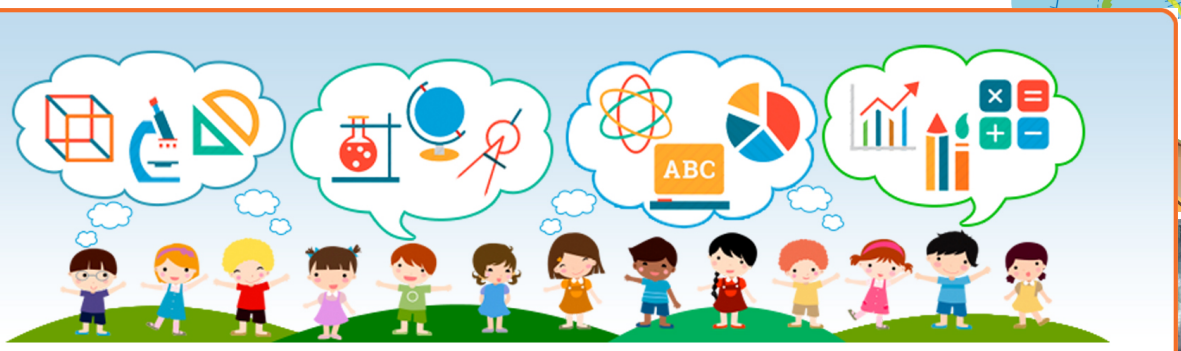
1. - deep underwater flat plains found on the ocean floor; part of the deep-ocean basin that is covered by sediment



2. - the underwater mountain chain down the middle of the Atlantic Ocean basin that was formed by sea-floor spreading; a long depression in the ocean floor that has steep sides

3.
an oce

4.



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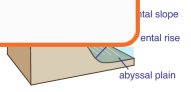
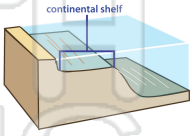
5.
shore
period

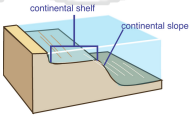
6.
extend



7. - the region of the ocean floor that begins at the shoreline and gradually deepens toward the open ocean



8. - the inclined section between the continental shelf and the continental rise



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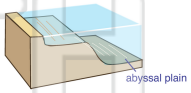
Earth's oceans

Name_____ Class_____ Date_____

Match each of the following terms to its definition:

Tide	Ocean trench	Seamount	Flat abyssal plains
Continental shelf	Continental slope	Mid-ocean ridge	Continental rise

1. flat abyssal plains - deep underwater flat plains found on the ocean floor; part of the deep-ocean basin that is covered by sediment



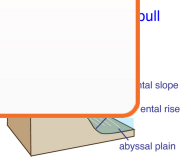
2. mid-ocean ridge - the underwater mountain chain down the middle of the Atlantic Ocean basin that was formed by sea-floor spreading; a long depression in the ocean floor that has steep sides

3. oce
ocean

4. sea

5. tid
gravit
falling

6. con
extend



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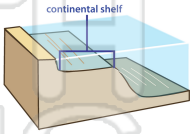
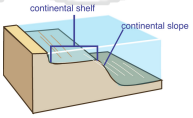
7. continental shelf - the region of the ocean floor that begins at the shoreline and gradually deepens toward the open ocean



8. continental slope - the inclined section between the continental shelf and the continental rise



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