

Earth Layer Beads



MAKE EARTH LAYER BEADS

Materials

- 5 colors of polymer clay (hot pink, orange, yellow, blue, & green)
- Toothpick
- Baking tray
- Oven
- Knife
- Strong string or dental floss
- Plastic beads

Directions:

- 1) Have each student roll a little ball of hot pink clay.
- 2) Have each student flatten little pieces of orange clay, stick them all over the outside of the ball, and then roll the ball until it's smooth again.
- 3) Repeat step 2 with yellow clay and then with blue clay.
- 4) Once the blue layer is smooth, have your students add some pieces of green clay. Don't cover all of the blue! Each student should roll their ball smooth one last time.
- 5) Steps 5 and 6 should be done by an adult. Carefully cut each "Earth" in half and push a toothpick through the top of each half of the "Earth" to make beads.
- 6) Bake the beads at 275 degrees Fahrenheit for about 20 minutes.

Graham Cracker Tectonic Plates Activity



GRAHAM CRACKER TECTONIC PLATES

Materials

- Graham crackers
- Paper plates
- Red or orange frosting
- Cups of water
- Eye-droppers
- Marbles

Directions:

- 1) Give each student a paper plate with a thick smear of icing, and two graham cracker halves on top. Explain that the frosting is the molten mantle of the Earth and the graham crackers are the tectonic plates.
- 2) Direct your students to push the graham cracker halves forward and backwards against each other without letting them separate. This represents a transform boundary. Encourage them notice that sometimes the graham crackers move smoothly and sometimes they snag and jerk. Talk about earthquakes.
- 3) Direct your students to pull the two graham crackers away from each other while keeping them flat on the plate. This mimics a divergent boundary. Talk about deep ocean trenches.
- 4) Have your students briefly dip one end of each graham cracker half in water. Direct them to push the halves together with the wet edges facing each other. Talk about folded mountains and volcanoes.
- 5) Direct students to use the eye-dropper to squirt water onto the top of the mountains they created in step 4. Squirt the same spot until the water forms a path and changes the shape of the mountain. Talk about erosion and weathering.
- 6) Finally, have students drop their marbles onto their graham crackers. Explain that most landforms are made slowly over time, but that some events like a meteor strike (the marble), a volcanic eruption, or an earthquake can create sudden changes.

Continents Necklace



Materials

- Shrink film for ink jet printers
- Ink jet printer
- Colored pencils
- Scissors
- Single hole punch
- Baking tray
- Oven
- Continents templates
- Plastic beads
- Thick string, yarn, or dental floss

Directions:

- 1) Print out one continent sheet for every 2 students on shrink film. (Another option is to print onto thick cardstock, punch out the holes, and skip to step 5.)
- 2) Have your students use colored pencils to color the continents. Color on the rough side.
- 3) Then, have your students cut out and hole punch each continent.
- 4) Bake the shrink film according to the package directions.
- 5) Finally, have your students thread the continents and beads onto yarn, thick string, or dental floss for a necklace.

Continents
Version A



Continents
Version A



Play-Dough Landforms



Materials

- Landforms poster
- Multiple colors of play-dough (blue, green, brown, gray, etc.)
- Paper plate

Directions:

- 1) Post the landforms and bodies of water posters at a center.
- 2) Set out paper plates and play-dough.
- 3) Challenge students to create models of the different landforms.

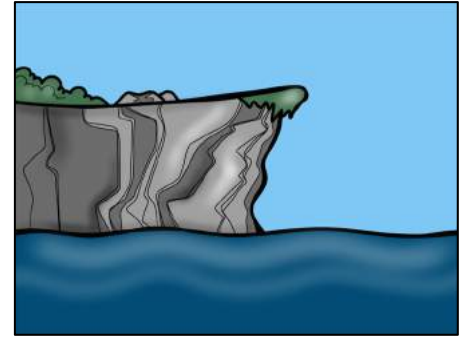
Landforms



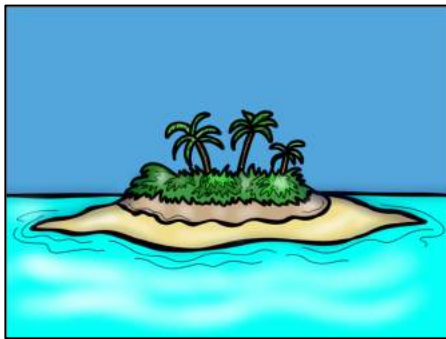
mountain



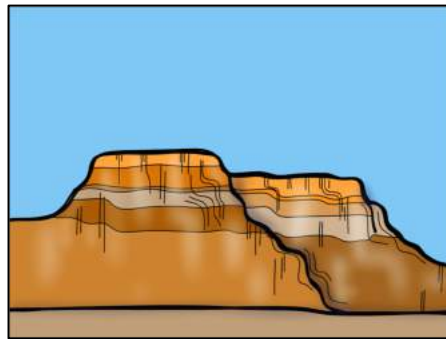
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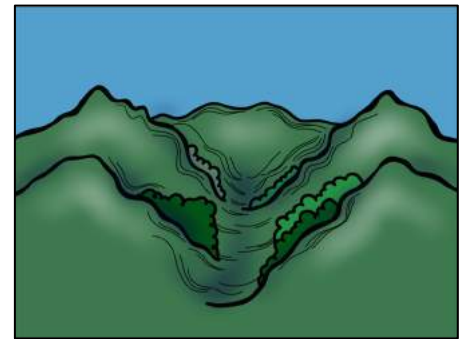
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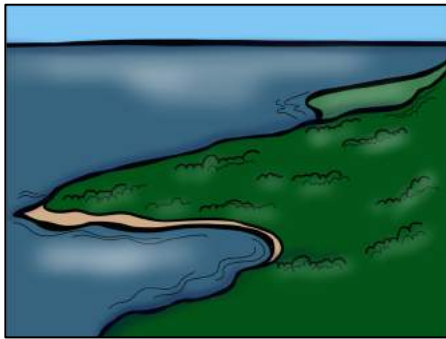
mountain



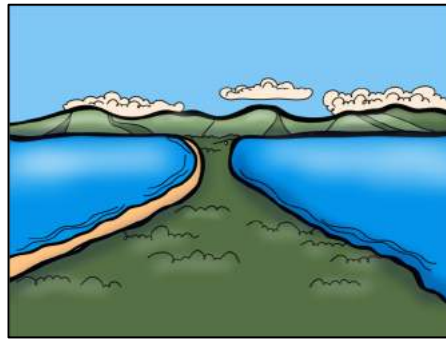
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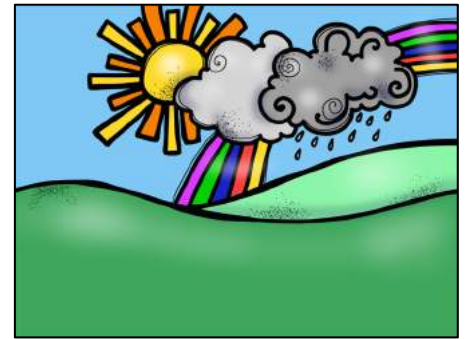
valley



peninsula



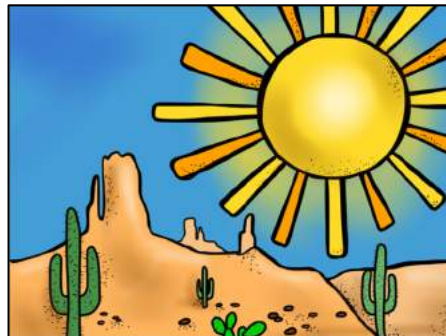
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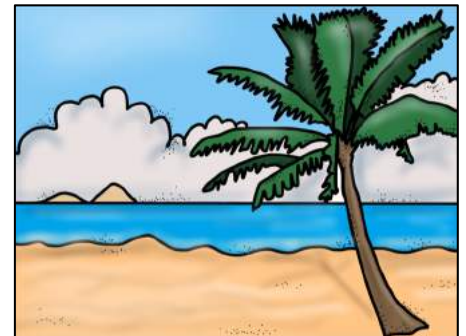
hill



volcano

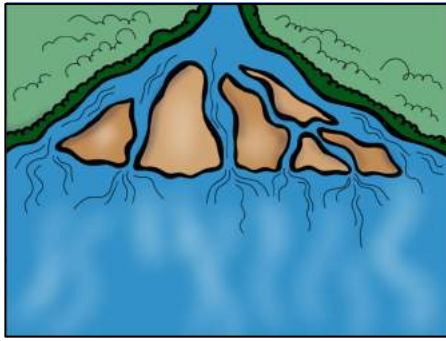


desert

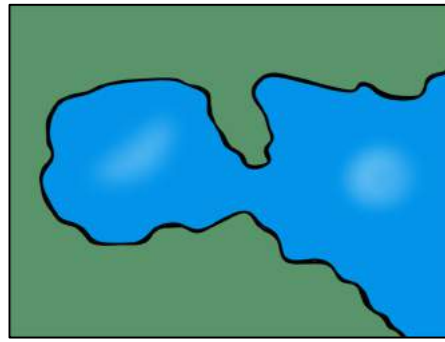


beach

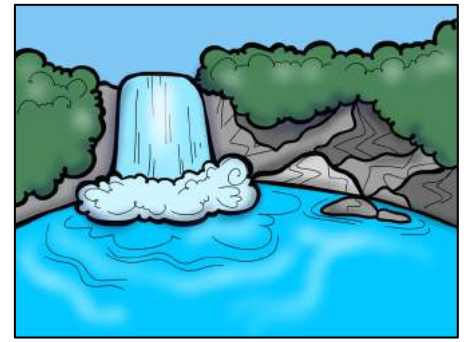
Bodies of Water



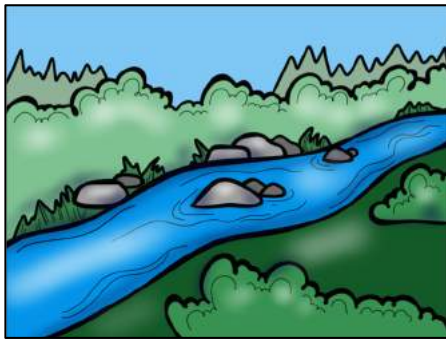
delta



gulf



waterfall



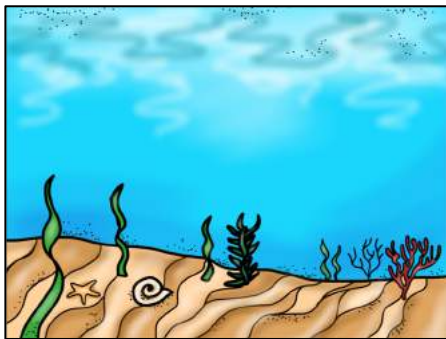
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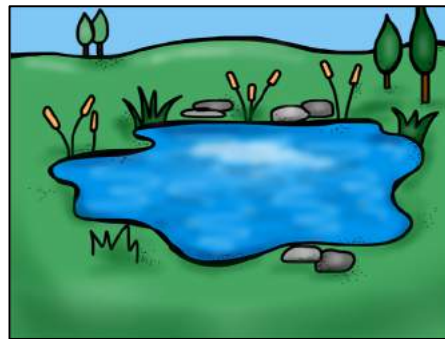
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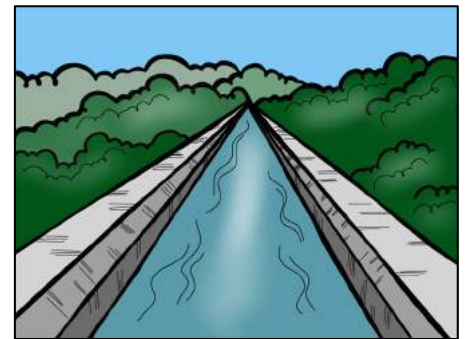
swamp



ocean

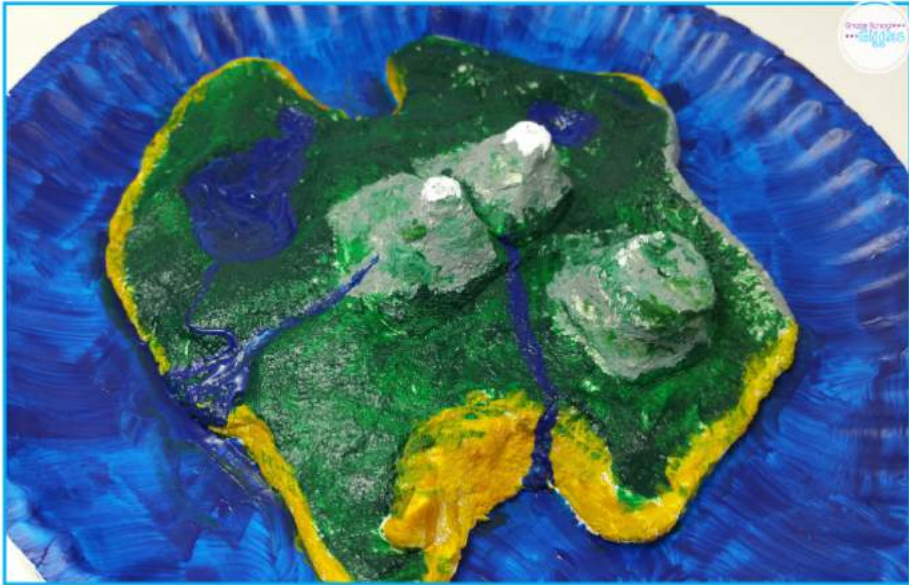


pond



canal

Salt Dough Islands



CREATE A SALT DOUGH ISLAND

Materials

- Paper plates
- Salt dough
- Tempera paint and paintbrushes
- A cup of water for each group
- Map worksheets
- Pencils
- Crayons or colored pencils

Directions:

- 1) Give each student a paper plate and salt dough. Ask them to build an island on their plate including at least 10 different landforms or bodies of water. Let the islands dry for several days.
- 2) Set out paper plates with several colors of paint, paintbrushes, and cups of water. Ask your students to paint their islands using realistic colors for the different landforms and bodies of water. Let the islands dry.
- 3) Give each student a map worksheet. Have them create maps of their islands.

Salt Dough Recipe - Teacher Version

Ingredients

You will need....

- 1 cup salt
- 1 cup flour
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup warm water

The amount of dough you will need depends on the size of your project. Make a sample project and multiply the amount of dough you used by the number of students.

Equipment

You will need...

- A bowl
- A rubber spatula or spoon
- A large sealable plastic bag for storage

Directions

Mix the flour and salt together in the bowl. Add in the water. Mix it all together until you get a nice doughy ball.

If it is too sticky add more salt. It is okay for it to feel grainy.

Tips

- You can add glitter or food coloring to the dough for interest.
- You can also leave it plain and paint it once it dries.
- Parent volunteers can make the dough and send it to school in gallon sized plastic baggies.

Drying It

Salt dough will air dry. It will take a few days to completely dry. You can also dry small projects in the oven by baking them at 200 degrees Fahrenheit for a few hours.

Landform Project Idea

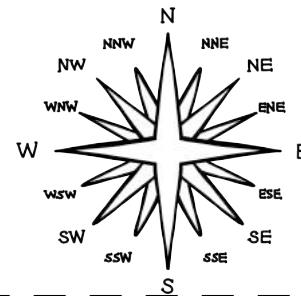
Give each student a paper plate and salt dough. Ask them to design an island that includes models of 10 landforms or bodies of water. Let the salt dough dry and then have them paint it. Finally, have them draw a map with a key identifying the landforms.

Name: _____

Use the model you made out of salt dough to complete this page. Draw a map of your island. Draw carefully and be sure to include symbols for all ten landforms on your island. Make a key and label the symbols. Bonus: Add a scale and grid to your map.

Map Of My Island

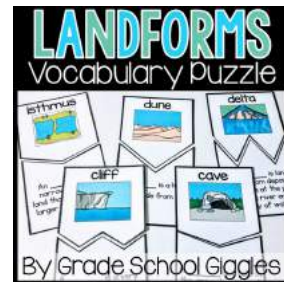
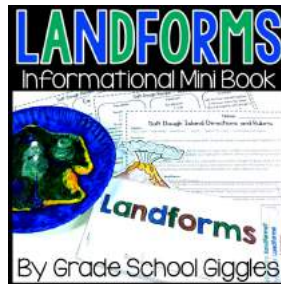
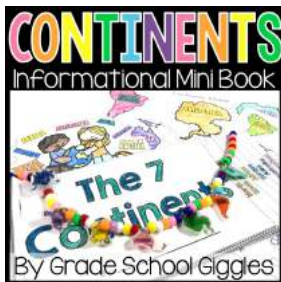
Key/Legend



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