

# \* Lecture Notes for 10/7 \*

## The Earth - Our Home Planet

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### • The Earth as a planet

- oblaque - (bulges in the middle = SPINNING)

period

(a lot of water / a lot of loose rock)  
tidal forces from the moon

### • 2 different types of materials that Earth is made up of

1. silicate rocks (silicon)

2. iron

• measure w/ Earthquake waves to determine interior of Earth

### 2 types of Earthquake waves

- P waves transverse
- S waves kind of transverse

### • fission (radio-active decay) → heating up inside of the earth

- 2 atoms join together (hydrogen / nitrogen)

- heavier atoms and they split / particles break off

- happens on a really small scale

responsible for

### • leftover heat from early collisions that planets suffered

• responsible for heating up inside of the earth.

REALLY HOT !!

Earth's Interior = Crust (South Africa → deepest mine in the world - diamond mines) silicates

= mantle silicates, sulfur P

= liquid core - iron / nickel

= inner core - iron / nickel

### • Age of the Earth:

can be determined by

4.5 billion years = rocks undergoing radio-active decay

(Age of the Universe - 9-15 billion years) • Doppler Shift / Red Shift

Earliest life form on the Earth? prokaryotic cell (1st cells found) (asexual, sexual)

eukaryotic cell (more advanced)

### • Atmosphere - came from impacts

• Nitrogen, Carbon dioxide, water vapor (1st there)

• oxygen came from organisms (2nd) (volcanoes)

Recycle  
Rock =

Earth has ability to mix rocks up - sends back down

- big convection currents = bring rocks up to surface
- mid-Atlantic Ridge (new rocks forming everyday)

subduction zone = rocks going back down into the mantle  
ex: South America (west coast)

Terrain features formed by:

ice; water; erosion due to water; cracking of rocks - freezing;  
volcanic activity

3 basic types of rocks =

1. Sedimentary (crust of earth ~~is~~ covers) form on bottom of bodies of water (sediments (dead animals, trees - settle on floor) compacted  
lithification)
2. igneous = lava = volcanoes; result of volcanic activity
3. metamorphic = metamorphos = "to change"  
(most challenging to analyze) sedimentary or igneous rock that has changed due to heat or pressure  
ex: slate (very useful in what happened to the earth)

Sedimentary rocks

1. Sandstone
2. Limestone

• Idaho has

- metamorphic
- igneous

Igneous rocks:

form rapidly; has a bunch of info @ the time rock condensed

Convection - Atmosphere (transfer heat through a fluid)  
(warm will rise through a cool fluid)

Motion of Continents - Plate tectonics

convection motions make large thin areas of crust  
slide over mantle rock - Plate tectonics

- Movement of earth's crust - a lot of terrain features
- collision of plates buckles crust - mountain ranges
- Separation of plates often rifts - some ocean basins

- plate motion also triggers volcanic eruptions along some plate edges.
- biggest earthquake in continental U.S. → Missouri 1833 (reverse of river for a day)
- Dormant volcanoes
- In Active volcanoes

Formed from a bunch of dust (planet testable)

## 2 Sources of Internal heat

radio-active decay

left over heat from early collisions

Early Atmosphere - collisions

volcanic activity

Geological

volcanism

continental drift