

Modeling Seafloor Spreading

Quick Write: Why are models necessary when studying the Earth?

Think-Pair-Share: We are going to make a model of sea-floor spreading. What types of things should we be sure to include in our model?

1.

2.

3.

Materials:

60 cm long paper strip

1 box of markers

1 bar magnet

1 compass

1 cardboard box lid

Meter Stick or ruler

Directions:

1. You will work in a group of four.

2. Pick up materials that will be used for this activity.

3. Assigned jobs:

- Student A: **Paper Puller**
- Student B: **Compass Reader**
- Student C: **Marker**
- Student D: **Magnet Manager**

4. **Paper Puller:** Measure and cut 60 cm of the paper strip. Fold the strip in half lengthwise so it is approximately 30 cm long. Push the ends of the strip through the slit in the lid of a cardboard box so that it is sticking out about 5 cm on the top of the lid. Leave the folded end of the strip underneath the box.

5. **Marker:** Draw a line in the center of the paper (where it is coming out of the box) making sure to mark both sides of the paper.

6. **Compass Reader:** Place the compass next to the paper where it is coming out of the box.

7. **Magnet Manager:** Place the magnet on the opposite side of the paper from the compass.

8. **Compass Reader:** Observe which direction is North and tell the Marker.

Exit Ticket

In the space below, draw a diagram of the sea floor spreading. Include as much detail as you can.