

# Plate Tectonics

Plate Tectonics Unit includes:

- Print and digital Interactive Notebooks
- Editable Resources including notes, PowerPoints, and test
- Instructional Videos
- Teacher-led Demos & Guided Inquiry Labs
- Task Cards & Digital Task Cards
- Study Guides





## Suggested Pacing Guide



The following is a **suggested pacing guide** for my COMPLETE COURSES (Earth, Life or Physical Science) which are based on 50-minute class periods. There are three variations below. **Each variation is based on the number of sections in your SCIENCE INTERACTIVE NOTEBOOK chapter.**

Based on a 4-Section Chapter

Day	Lesson/Activity	Engage	Explain	Explore	Elaborate	Evaluate
1	• Teacher Demo	x				
	• Section 1 Notes – INB input		x			
	• INB Activity – INB output (homework if not completed in class)			x		
2	• Mini-quiz					x
	• Section 2 Notes – use PowerPoint		x			
	• INB Activity			x		
3	• Mini-quiz					x
	• Guided Inquiry Lab – Student Led			x		
	• Section 3 Notes – use PowerPoint		x			
4	• INB Activity			x		
	• Mini-quiz					x
	• Section 4 Notes – use PowerPoint		x			
5	• INB Activity			x		
	• Mini quiz					x
	• Science Stations				x	
6	• Science Stations				x	
	• Final draft and testing for Creation Station (STEM)				x	x
	• Task Card Review (game-style, full class, partner)				x	
7	• Chapter Test					x
	• Have students complete notes for next chapter*	x				

\* **Note-taking option:** Once students are done with chapter test, they get the next set of notes and work quietly on completing them while other students finish up. All notes are to be completed when they return to class. Have students glue each page of notes into the next few pages of their INB (right side only). This way, when you go over the PowerPoint each day, they have already reviewed topic and are ready for class.

### 5 E Model

**Engage** – Teacher-led demos foster wonder and classroom discussion and serve as the hook for the lesson. Videos and images of natural phenomena also foster questioning and communication. NGSS phenomena are aligned to middle school NGSS standards.

**Explain** – PowerPoints, instructional videos, and guided notes (input side of interactive notebooks) provide definitions, explanations, and information through mini-lecture, text, internet, and other resources which encourages students to explain concepts and definitions in their own words.

**Explore** – Students investigate problems, events, or situations. As a result of their mental and physical involvement in these activities, students question events, observe patterns, identify and test variables, and communicate results.

**Elaborate** – It is important to involve students in further experiences that apply, extend, or elaborate the concepts, processes, or skill they are learning. Elaborate activities provide time for students to apply their understanding of concepts and skills. They might apply their understanding to similar phenomena or problems.

**Evaluate** – Use a variety of assessment to gather evidence of student's understanding and provide opportunities for them to assess their own progress.



# Student Digital Notebook

The student notebook is on Google Drive and ready for you to share with your students. Here's a quick overview of the features:

Set up like a traditional interactive notebook with input and output sides.

Hyperlinked tabs so student can easily move through chapter for review

Students watch video < 6 min to complete notes.

The screenshot shows a digital notebook page with two main sections: "CONVECTION CURRENTS" and "CONVECTION AND THE MANTLE".

**CONVECTION CURRENTS:** Features a diagram of Earth's cross-section showing the Mantle (Asthenosphere) and Core (Outer and Inner). A 700 km depth is marked. Four points (A, B, C, D) are labeled on the mantle. Below the diagram are four input boxes labeled A, B, C, and D. At the bottom, there is a flowchart with boxes for "Cause" and "Effect".

**CONVECTION AND THE MANTLE:** Contains a table with columns for "Conduction", "Convection", and "Radiation". Below the table are text input areas for "Density -" and "Convection Currents". A green checkmark icon is next to a question: "What causes convection currents in the earth's mantle?".

**Navigation and Additional Features:** A vertical sidebar on the right contains tabs for "EARTH'S INTERIOR", "CONVECTION & THE MANTLE", "CONTINENTAL DRIFT", "THEORY OF PLATE TECTONICS", and "CLASSROOM LEARNING". A video player titled "Convection and the Mantle" is visible, with a play button and a red arrow pointing to it. Below the video player are buttons for "Digital Textbook" and "The Mantle".

Encouraging independent learners. Directions for output side are here along with what they need to complete the activity.

Notes are chunked into manageable sections with large spaces for textboxes

Some pages have links so students can go deeper into the topic if they need.

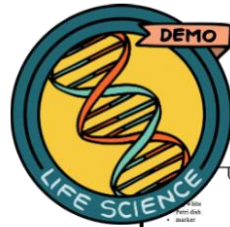
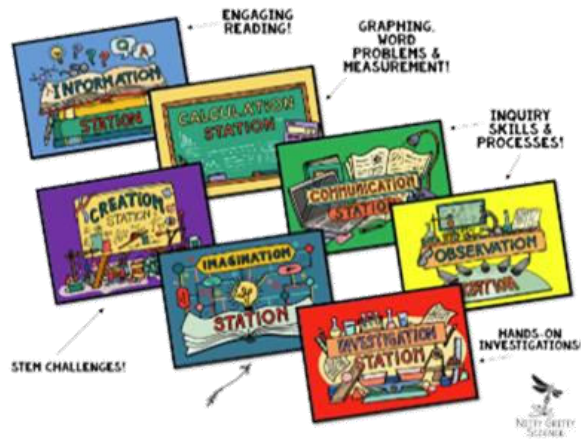
# Demos, Labs, & Science Stations

Working in the lab and being engaged in science experiments is the most exciting part of science.

Demo, Labs, and Science Stations Includes:

1. **SCIENCE STATION SIGNAGE** for all 7 stations is provided in color and in black and white (see preview) and all student answer sheets have icons that correspond with each station for ease of use.
2. **DEMONSTRATION** (teacher-led) allows teachers to invite scientific discussions and can help uncover misconceptions and, most importantly, lead to heightened curiosity and interest in the topic being studied.
3. **GUIDED INQUIRY LAB** which is a traditional lab that allows students to perform an investigation in order to solve a problem. Students will hypothesize, collect and analyze data and communicate their results.
4. **TEACHER GUIDES to DEMOS & SCIENCE STATIONS** help get you started and give you background information to make your science lessons engaging.
5. **7 SCIENCE STATIONS** which are designated locations in the classroom with activities that challenge students to extend their knowledge and elaborate on their science skills by working independently of the teacher in small groups or pairs. Stations included are:
  - **INFORMATION STATION** – Group members will read an interesting and relevant science passage then complete a task to help increase science literacy and deepen their understanding of the science concept.
  - **OBSERVATION STATION** – Group members will have images, illustrations, or actual samples at this station that show applications or processes of the science topic. Using what they've learned, they will need to apply their observation skills to complete the questions attached to each.
  - **CALCULATION STATION** – Group members use their math skills to complete the station challenge. Skills may include graphing, analyzing data, using models, measurement, and calculating formulas or word problems.
  - **INVESTIGATION STATION** – Group members will work with one another to explore the concept through hands-on activities so they may practice specific inquiry process skills as they learn.
  - **COMMUNICATION STATION** – There are three different options for this station: interviews, video, group essay. Depending on the option you choose, group members will communicate what they know by answering questions in creative ways.
  - **CREATION STATION** – Group members will work together to solve a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) challenge by creating models or designs that demonstrate their understanding of the science topic being taught.
  - **IMAGINATION STATION** – This station makes science concepts relevant for students by asking them to imagine scenarios that will bring about discussion and critical thinking.
6. **INQUIRY PROCESS SKILLS CHECKLIST** is provided with each set to show teachers and administrators the inquiry skills used by students in each activity. These skills include, but are not limited to, communicating, creating models, inferring, classifying, identifying variables, measuring, observing, predicting, gathering and organizing data, comparing and contrasting, interpreting data, and manipulating materials.

# SCIENCE STATIONS



**Eye Safety**

SCIENCE SKILLS AND LAB SAFETY

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Procedure:

1. Draw an eye on the underside of the Post-It and display for class using the projector.
2. Cook over the egg and place the egg white only in the front dish.
3. Explain that the proteins in egg whites are similar to those found in the protective layer of the eye.
4. Tell them that someone was not being cautious and has splashed acid into their eye - add drops of acid to the egg white.
5. Ask students to make observations of what is happening to the egg white.
6. Try adding water to reverse the effects. Have students make observations.

**What's Happening?**

The proteins in the egg white become cloudy when the acid is causing a denaturation of the proteins. This can't be reversed (other reactions and systems used to understand that a chemical can cause severe damage to their eyes or skin if not used properly. Students must be made aware of the safety procedures associated with such as wearing goggles, gloves and aprons. Make sure they are aware of safety equipment - eye wash station, shower, fire blanket, etc.)

**Discussion**

Q: What happened to the "eye"?

A: The protective layer became cloudy and damaged the eye.

Q: What type of safety equipment must be worn when doing Lab?

A: goggles, apron, hot fire gloves

©2014 Taina Science



Discussion questions and teacher set-up included!

Teacher guide and answer key offered for every lab!

Easy-to-get materials!



**Measure with SI Units**

SCIENCE SKILLS AND LAB SAFETY

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

The standard system of measurement used by scientists around the world is known as the International System of Units, which is abbreviated as SI. SI units are easy to use because they are based on multiples of 10. Each unit is ten times larger than the next smallest unit and one-tenth the size of the next largest unit. The following table lists the prefixes used to name the most common SI units.

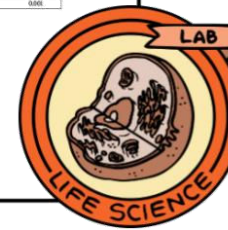
Prefix	Symbol	Abbreviation
kilo-	k	1,000
hecto-	h	100
deka-	da	10
deci-	d	0.1
centi-	c	0.01
milli-	m	0.001

**Materials:**

- scattered seeds
- tape
- balance
- postage scale
- paper/foam trays/ small milk cartons
- fertilizer solution
- metric ruler
- 10-mL graduated cylinder
- colored pencils

**Safety:**

•



## USER-FRIENDLY PAGES:

Students easily recognize which answer sheet to use at each station by matching station icons located on each page!!

**Drip, Drop, Splat!**

How does the density of a liquid and drop height affect the size and shape of droplet splatters?

**Materials:**

- colored water (graduated cylinder A)
- colored syrup (graduated cylinder B)
- eye dropper
- paper
- metric ruler
- meter stick

**Procedure:**

1. Make a hypothesis of how density of a liquid will affect splatter size on your lab sheet.
2. Place the piece of paper down on the lab table in order to catch splatters.
3. Measure the heights listed in the data table using a meter stick. Place meter stick with end starting at zero on paper and move up stick when increasing height of drop.
4. Use the eye dropper to drop ONE drop of colored water and ONE drop of colored syrup. Make sure to drop on different places on paper.
5. Measure the size of the splatter in MILLIMETERS. Record in data table on answer sheet.
6. Repeat for each height.
7. Use the collected data to graph the splatter size versus drop height for each liquid.

**Analyze and Conclude**

1. Was your hypothesis correct? Explain.
2. What are two controls in your experiment that helped you collect the most accurate data possible?

©2014 Taina Science

**TEACHERS SAVE TIME:**  
Laminate station pages and reuse for each class and for years to follow!  
Inquiry skills used are timeless!

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Hypothesis**

\_\_\_\_\_

	3	25	50	75	100
Colored Water					
Colored Syrup					

**Height of Drop vs. Splatter Size**

Number of Drops (mm)

Size of Splatter (mm)

**Legend:**

- Water
- Syrup

**Analyze and Conclude:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

©2014 Taina Science

# Instructional Videos

The Intro to Life Science Instructional Videos and Digital Assessments are designed to help teachers move instruction from the group learning space to the individual learning space. Not only does this give students independence in their learning, but it also allows more time for dynamic and interactive learning when teachers meet with students in a group setting.

This resource is perfect for:

- Flipped Classroom
- Absent students
- 1:1 Classrooms
- Sub Plans
- Hybrid Schedules
- Teachers who want more time to guide students as they apply concepts and engage creatively in the subject matter

Features of this resource include:

- Instructional videos which are six minutes or less to keep students focus
- Videos and assessments can be completed independently
- Auto grading and reporting in Google Forms
- Share link with students through educational platforms or email
- Quizzes are editable with 5 – 8 questions per quiz
- Information in video pairs with Nitty Gritty Science Interactive Notebooks

# Task Cards & Digital Task Cards

Task cards are a great tool for concept review that can be used in a variety of ways - pairs, small groups, team games, or individually. The reason they are so effective is there is only ONE task per card, allowing students to focus on that single task until they have successfully completed it. Answers sheet and answer key for teachers are included.

The digital, self-checking task cards are hosted at Boom Learning™ and are compatible with Google Classroom. These are perfect for displaying on your interactive whiteboard and leading class games or review sessions.

Print Task Cards

**1** **DECIDE**  
How do underwater mountain ranges form?  
a. continental drift  
b. convection currents  
c. strike-slip faults  
d. sea floor spreading

**2** **DECIDE**  
\_\_\_\_\_ first proposed the theory of continental drift.

**5** **DECIDE**  
\_\_\_\_\_ first proposed the theory of continental drift.

**6** **IDENTIFY**  
Identify the layer labeled D.

**9** **COMPLETE**  
Continental crust consists mainly of rock called \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. granite      c. fluorite  
b. basalt      d. agate

**10** **IDENTIFY**  
Identify the layer labeled D.

**13** **LIST**  
List the three types of heat transfer that occur in Earth's processes.

**14** **IDENTIFY**  
Identify the heat current illustrated above.

**15** **COMPLETE**  
\_\_\_\_\_ is the measure of how much mass there is in a volume of a substance.

**16** **EXPLAIN**  
Explain what is occurring at point D.

Digital Task Cards

**Plate Tectonics**  
Identify the type of illustration shown above.

**Plate Tectonics**  
The uppermost part of the mantle and the crust is called the \_\_\_\_\_.  
atmosphere  
outer core

**Plate Tectonics**  
The geological theory of \_\_\_\_\_ states that pieces of Earth's lithosphere are in constant, slow motion.

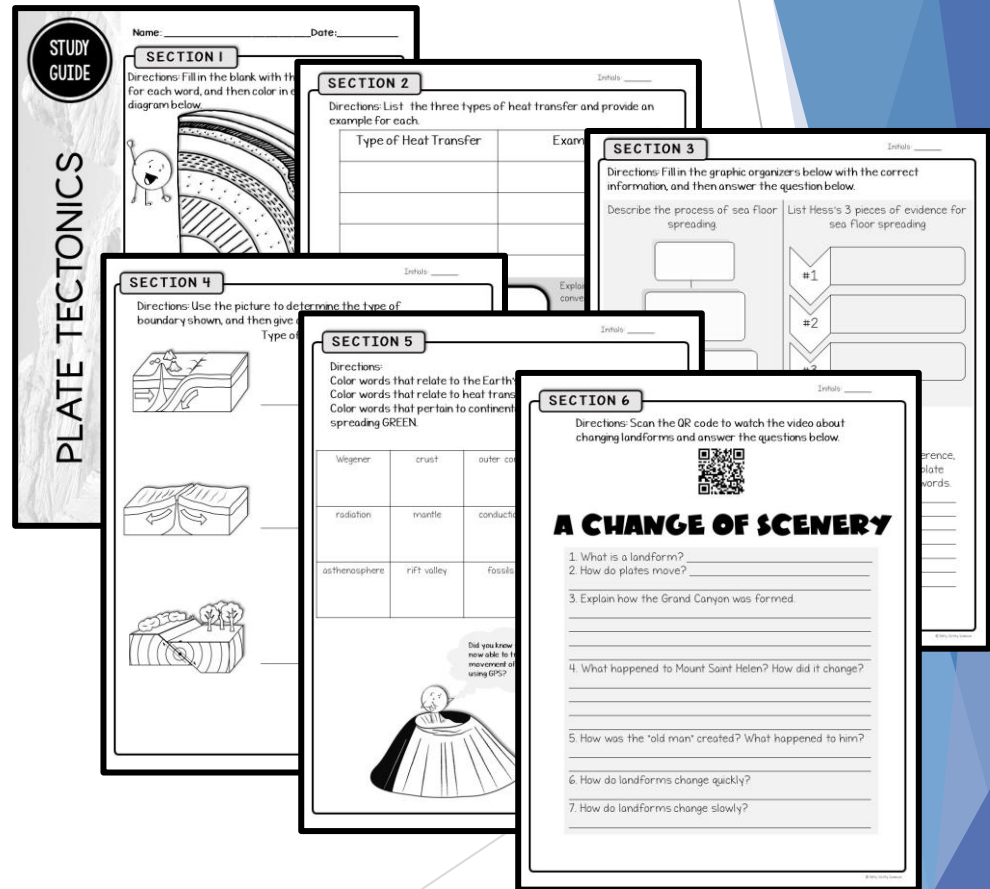


# Study Guides: Includes *print* or *digital* options

Nitty Gritty Science Study Guides are directly aligned to the notes and assessments offered by Nitty Gritty Science and include a variety of review strategies which meet the needs of your learners for independent study and indirect instruction.

Each study guide provides a combination of strategies which may include:

- Graphic organizers
- Vocabulary building
- Compare and contrast
- Problem solving
- Concept mapping
- Interpreting data
- Critical thinking
- Theme connection
- Matching
- Fill-in-the-blank
- Short answer
- Real world application
- QR videos with accompanying questions



# Assessments:

Teachers can use a variety of assessments to evaluate student progress throughout the unit. The curriculum provides mini-quizzes for each Interactive Notebook chapter and an online assessments that goes with the instructional videos. The chapter test includes multiple choice, short answer, interpreting diagrams, and an essay.

The image displays a collage of educational assessment materials. On the left, two identical multiple-choice quizzes are shown, each with five questions about continental drift and sea-floor spreading. In the center, a larger document titled 'CHAPTER TEST' is visible, featuring a variety of question formats: multiple choice, short answer, and diagram interpretation. A red-bordered box at the top of this document states: 'EDITABLE CHAPTER TEST INCLUDES MULTIPLE CHOICE, FILL IN THE BLANK, INTERPRETING DIAGRAM, & SHORT ANSWERS QUESTIONS'. At the bottom, another red-bordered box reads: 'ANSWER KEY INCLUDED — IMAGES ARE BLURRED FOR COPYRIGHT REASONS'. The background of the entire graphic is a blue and white geometric pattern.

# Terms of Use

Thank you for sharing Nitty Gritty Science with your students!

## Terms of Use

Copyright © Nitty Gritty Science, LLC and Nitty Gritty Science Jr., LLC. All rights reserved by author Dr. Erica Colón. This product is to be used by the original downloader only. Copying for more than one teacher, classroom, department, school, or school system is prohibited. This product may not be distributed or displayed digitally for public view. Failure to comply is a copyright infringement and a violation of the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA). Clipart and elements found in this PDF are copyrighted and cannot be extracted and used outside of this file without permission or license. Intended for classroom and personal use ONLY.

### Contact Information:

Email: [erica@nittygrittyscience.com](mailto:erica@nittygrittyscience.com)

Website: [www.nittygrittyscience.com](http://www.nittygrittyscience.com)

Shop the website or use the following links from Teachers Pay Teachers

Nitty Gritty Science (Grades 6–9)

<https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Nitty-Gritty-Science>

Nitty Gritty Science Jr (Grades K–5)

<https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Nitty-Gritty-Science-Jr>

