

Chocolate Bark Plate Tectonics

Estimated Time: 60 minutes

SUMMARY

Part of figuring out plate tectonics involved lining up the plates where they *used* to be. Some guesswork can be involved but a big clue comes from matching fossils and rock deposits separated by oceans that used to be joined together when the plates were together in a supercontinent. This activity is about just that concept... but uses delicious chocolate!

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

- Using fossils to match up past configurations of continents.
- How to make chocolate bark.

Materials Used	Resources Used
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ingredients for recipe to the right ● Plastic wrap ● Dish towel ● Cutting board or countertop ● Hammer or rolling pin 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chef in Training's ROLO Pretzel Bark recipe https://www.chef-in-training.com/rolo-pretzel-bark/

WHAT TO DO

1. Follow the directions to make ROLO Pretzel Bark using the recipe link in Resources Used above. *When making this recipe, don't scatter the toppings evenly across the surface of the bark.* Instead put pretzels in one part of the bark, ROLO pieces in another, and leave some of the bark empty. It's alright if these sections are equal and if the ingredients overlap somewhat. *Do not score the bark or break it into pieces...* yet.
2. Once the bark is cooled and hard, use the parchment paper to lift it onto a countertop or cutting board. Place a piece of plastic wrap (or more parchment paper) over the top of the bark and place a dish towel on top of both.
3. Use a hammer or rolling pin to break apart the bark into four or five big chunks. It's fine if there are smaller bits that break off too.
4. Move the chunks around to make it into a puzzle and see if someone else can fit the pieces back together! Make sure they know that they can use the pretzels and ROLOs to help them find areas that used to be joined together.
5. Eat your bark and read about fossils!

TIPS

- This recipe lists some delicious toppings for chocolate bark but anything goes! Other candies and crunchy snacks can go well on top of your chocolate bark and items like gummy dinosaurs or animal crackers can make the idea of fossils even clearer.
- In addition to reading the ingredients and steps on the kid-friendly Chef in Training site, be sure to also read the safety instructions and precautions.