

Purpose & SOL

- Students will identify the characteristics of the ocean floor, and label the features.
- Science 5.6

Materials

- Ocean diagram page (1 per team)
- Low profile cones (1 per team)
- Ocean relay cards (1 set per team)- see attached cards or consider these <http://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Oceans-308381>

Length
20 min.

Introduction

To warm up, have the students stand in a circle and complete an ocean wave. Have the wave go around the room a few times.

Implementation

Relay

- 1) Divide the class into teams now larger than 5.
- 2) Each group will have a specific cone color or spot as their starting point. Set a cone with items for students to retrieve a few feet away. The students should stand in a line behind their start cone. Each team's ocean diagram page should be placed near their starting point.
- 3) Give the first clue. (ex: the steep slope down the ocean floor). The first person in line will relay to collect the vocabulary word that matches the definition the teacher gave (ex. continental slope). Have students hop, skip, jump, swim, etc. to get the cards and bring them back to their team.
- 4) When the first person returns, they should show the card to their team and the team will silently vote (thumbs up if they're right, thumbs down if they're incorrect).
- 5) Make a pile of the cards, OR if it's the name of an ocean floor layer, have them place the card on their ocean floor diagram page.
- 6) Give the next definition clue and the second person in line will walk, skip, jump or swim to find the matching vocabulary word.
- 7) Continue relay until all cards are collected.
- 8) Review the 6 terms on the ocean floor diagram page.

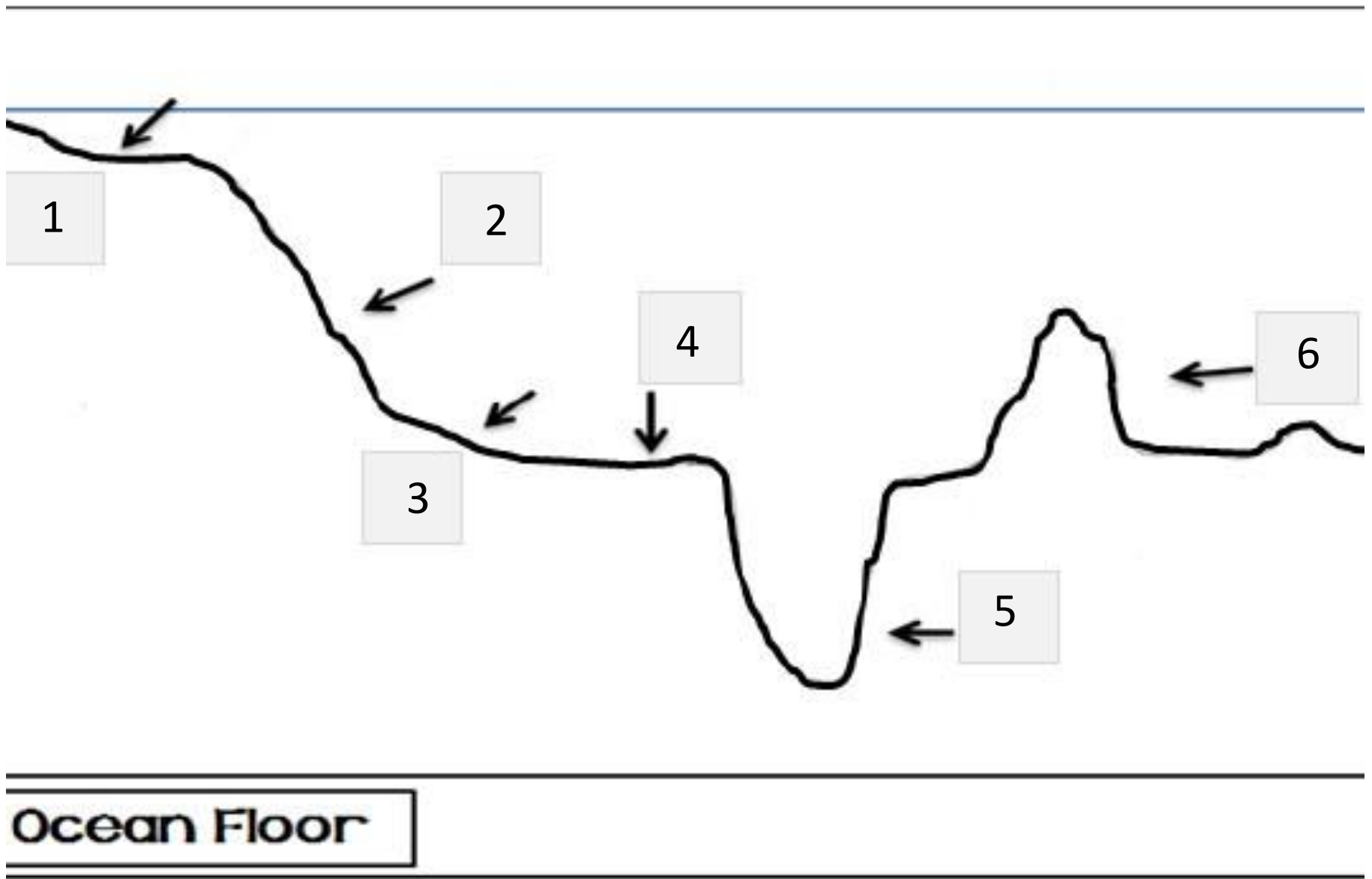
Cool Down

Reach up to the sky and dive down to the ground, reaching for your toes. Repeat this 5 times

Modifications

Include the definitions on the cards. Have students collect all cards and then give them time to match the term with the definition.





continental
shelf

continental
slope

continental
rise

abyssal plain

ocean trench

mid ocean
ridge

seamount

wave

sediment

erosion

Sunlit Zone

Twilight Zone

Midnight
Zone

tide

Vocabulary Definitions:

Continental shelf — land that is below the water and slopes gradually away from the shore.

Continental slope — the steep slope down the ocean floor.

Continental rise — the area where the continent ends and the ocean floor begins.

Abyssal plain— the ocean floor, made of flat, smooth sediment

Ocean trench — deep cuts in the ocean floor found near the abyssal plain

Mid ocean ridge — underwater mountain range that usually has a valley

Seamount — a mountain rising from the ocean floor that does not reach the ocean's surface

Wave — the movement of energy on top of the water

Sediment — pieces of matter, like rock, sand, or dirt that settle at the bottom of the water

Erosion — weathered material that moves from one place to another

Sunlit Zone — many plants and animals live in this zone

Twilight Zone — less sunlight means fewer plants and animals live in this zone

Midnight Zone — this zone barely has any life due to intense pressure and freezing temperatures

Tide — the rise and fall of the ocean's level caused by the moon's gravitational pull