



Superman and plate motion?

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The lesson includes: introducing a visual phenomenon of convection that is both beautiful and intriguing. It transcends other units and drives plates tectonics. Students then develop and use models to identify patterns of earthquake and volcano distribution which outlines the major plates. The students use data to illustrate relationships between systems and between components of the system.

Upon the completion of the activity the students study a graphic illustration of San Andreas and the relative motion of the Pacific and North American Plates. The fictional supervillain, Lex Luthor, is introduced along with his diabolical plan for expanding his wealth and property value along the San Andreas. The students research and discover if Luthor's plan could work.

This lesson is taking the concepts and skills students need but approaching it through student driven exploration and using the lens of a comic book superhero. The lesson connects, inspires curiosity, and discovery for our world.

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