Unit 7: Dynamic Planet: Earthquakes & Volcanoes

Lecture 1 Objectives:

E3.4A - Use the distribution of earthquakes and volcanoes to locate and determine the types of plate boundaries.

E2.2C - Describe natural processes in which heat transfer in the Earth occurs by conduction, convection, radiation.

Earthquakes

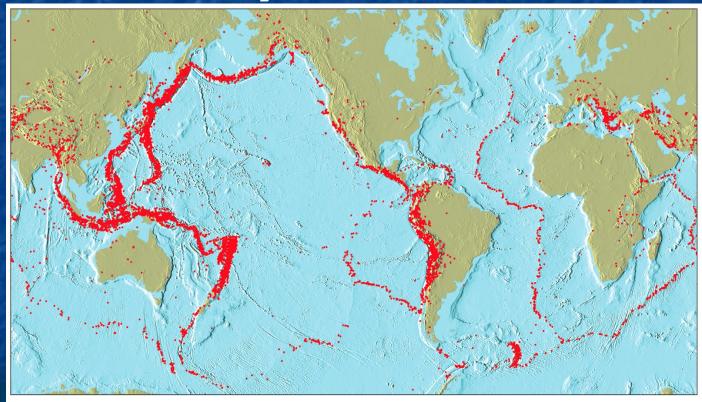
- Vibration of Earth produced by the rapid release of energy
- Associated with movements along faults
 - Explained by the plate tectonics theory
 - Rocks "spring back" a phenomena called elastic rebound
 - Vibrations (earthquakes) occur as rock elastically returns to its original shape

Earthquakes

Locating an earthquake

- Earthquake zones are closely correlated with plate boundaries
 - Circum-Pacific belt
 - Oceanic ridge system

Magnitude 5 or greater earthquakes over a 10 year period



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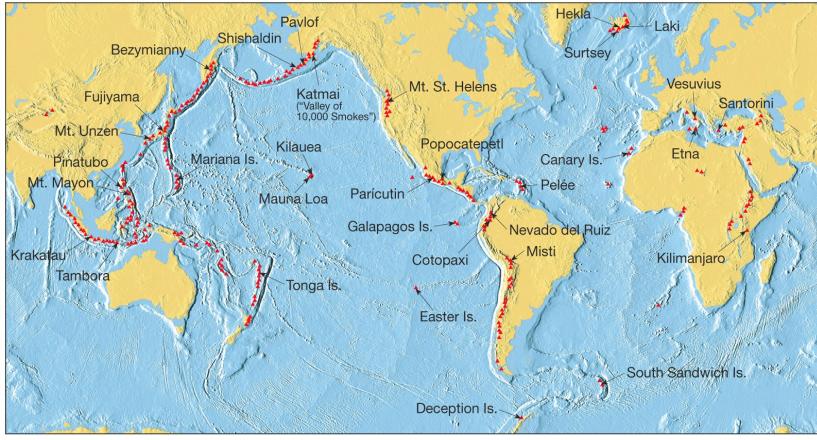
Figure 7.11

Volcanoes

 Global distribution of igneous activity is not random

- Most volcanoes are located on the margins of the ocean basins (intermediate, andesitic composition)
- Second group is confined to the deep ocean basins (basaltic lavas)
- Third group includes those found in the interiors of continents

Locations of some of Earth's major volcanoes



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