

Ocean Currents Activity

1. How come most common observers of the ocean fail to observe ocean currents?
2. How long does it take long currents to complete their circuit of the globe?
3. What is the location of the Gulf Stream Current?
4. Compare and contrast the movement of surface currents and deep currents.
5. What are gyres and where are the major gyres located?
6. Why do wind driven currents die down with depth?
7. What causes the Coriolis Effect?
8. Describe how a pilot would have to account for the Coriolis Effect when flying from Miami to Chicago. How would this change if the pilot were flying from Valparaiso to Santa Cruz? Why is there a difference?
9. What is the difference between the Westerlies and Trade Winds?
10. Why does the Canary current run north to south instead of south to north like the Gulf Stream?
11. How did the presence of the Labrador current contribute to the sinking of the Titanic?
12. Compare and contrast longshore, rip, and upwelling currents.
13. How does the Global Conveyor Belt connect all of the world oceans?
14. What is the source of energy for the Global Conveyor Belt?
15. Try your hand at setting a flight plan. How did you do?