

# The Ocean Floor Word Find Activity



Beneath the **ocean** is a **landscape**, which has similar features to what we see on land. The ocean floor is generally divided into the continental shelf, the continental slope and the deep ocean floor.

The land from the **continent** or an island gently extends out underneath the water to form a large area called the continental **shelf**. The continental shelf is a very important area under the ocean as a lot of marine **life** thrives there. The area can also contain petroleum, natural **gas** as well as minerals under the **seafloor** which are very **valuable**.

The continental **slope** is the point where the shelf area **plunges** down into the deepest parts of the oceans. This part of the ocean floor is marked with deep **canyons**. Below the continental slopes **sediment** can often collect over time to form gentle slopes called continental **rises**. The continental shelf, slope and rises are known as the continental **margin**.

In many parts of the **bottom** of the ocean there are flat areas covered with sediment. This area is called the **abyssal plain**. The abyssal **plain** is usually found at **depths** between 3000 and 6000 metres below sea level.

The abyssal plain is broken by mid ocean **ridges**, which are like long mountain **ranges** under the ocean. The entire **global** mid ocean ridge system is the **longest** mountain **chain** on earth and has formed where oceanic **plates** are continuously **separating**. These areas include the Mid-**Atlantic** ridge, the **Pacific** rise, as well as **trenches** such as the **Marina** Trench in the Pacific Ocean.

Isolated **mountains** or underwater **volcanoes** are called **seamounts**. Sometimes seamounts can become so large they rise out above the waters surface and form **islands**.

A **plateau** is like a mountain with a **flat** top under the water. Other types of landscapes include **troughs**, which are a long depressions in the seafloor, which are flat bottomed, and **steep** sided. A **channel** is a **narrow** stretch (like a river) under the ocean.

Complete the Ocean Floor word-find and test your visual and language skills. All of the words that are in bold above can be found in the word find box below.

L A P L A I N S N C N X S S C T P D M E  
 T A T A N M C N T O E U T E I R C T A P  
 H S N L B P S H O N T P E G F E H K R O  
 R M E D A E L B A T U I E D I N R U I L  
 S A G G S N W A A I M O P I C C O P N S  
 B S M I N C T D T N N W M R A H O O A T  
 M Q R U O O A I U E Z G W A P E L C M U  
 G L O B A L L P C N S H M L E S F V Q N  
 S E D I M E N T E T Z A U J E S A S I V  
 S E P A R A T I N G R N P L A T E A U O  
 L T J C R W I S M G G N A E C O S I O H  
 S V R R I A Y O I E S N O Y N A C F M F  
 V H O O X G U N S C M O T T O B V E L T  
 F W T Q U N Y E J H O H D Q K S L A Y W  
 P L H P T G G B P A Z G G V D B T R B C  
 V S E A E N H J G N S E O N A C L O V G  
 S R I H A D N S C N P Z A U H Z K N C Q  
 S N Q R S T C T S E G L L X W X H G T V  
 S C H M M T R N Y L S A D N G E K E D F  
 M Q U N Z Z K T E I V G Q L H H H J I F

