**Materials**
- Cookie sheet
- 2 Cups of dirt
- 1 Quart bowl
- Spoon

**Procedure**
- Pour the dirt into the bowl.
- Add water and stir with a spoon until you have a thick mud.
- Pour the mud into the cookie sheet.
- Set the pan of mud in the sun for 2 to 3 days.
- Push down around the sides of the dried mud.

**Results**
The surface of the dried mud cracks!

**Why?**
The mud is broken into pieces with jagged edges, and all the pieces fit together. The continents of the earth, like the mud cake, look like large jigsaw-puzzle pieces. The coastlines of the continents have irregular shapes that appear to fit together. In the past, pressures within the earth may have broken a large landmass into the pieces that now form the separate continents on the earth.

To learn more about earth science, check out the *Restless Earth* exhibit at the Pink Palace Museum.