## Modeling Thermohaline Circulation

#### **Activity Goals**

- Form water layers
- Model how temperature (themo) and salinity (haline) affect the movement of water

#### This activity:

- Revisits density concepts
- Connects density to ocean circulation
- Utilizes a model

# Thermohaline Circulation





For each of the following, choose whether the statement is TRUE or FALSE and give a brief explanation of how you know. . .

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TRUE or FALSE

You only use 10% of your brain.



http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:PET\_Alzheimer.jpg

For each of the following, choose whether the statement is TRUE or FALSE and give a brief explanation of how you know. . .

#### FALSE

You only use 10% of your brain.

FACT: You use most of your brain, most of the time.

http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm? id=people-only-use-10-percent-of-brain



http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:PET\_Alzheimer.jpg

For each of the following, choose whether the statement is TRUE or FALSE and give a brief explanation of how you know. . .

TRUE or FALSE

Thomas Edison invented the light bulb.



http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Edisonat\_home\_in\_Ft.\_Myers\_Florida\_1914\_detail\_LC-LC-USZ62-131044\_.tiff\_adjusted.jpg

For each of the following, choose whether the statement is TRUE or FALSE and give a brief explanation of how you know. . .

#### FALSE

Thomas Edison invented the light bulb.

FACT: Humphry Davy invented the first electric light in 1809.

http://inventors.about.com/library/inventors/bllight2.htm



http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Edisonat\_home\_in\_Ft.\_Myers\_Florida\_1914\_detail\_LC-LC-USZ62-131044\_.tiff\_adjusted.jpg

For each of the following, choose whether the statement is TRUE or FALSE and give a brief explanation of how you know. . .

TRUE or FALSE

It takes seven years to digest gum when you swallow it.



http://www.flickr.com/photos/msittig/5901055699/sizes/m/in/ photostream/

For each of the following, choose whether the statement is TRUE or FALSE and give a brief explanation of how you know. . .

#### FALSE

It takes seven years to digest gum when you swallow it.

FACT: Swallowed gum may linger in your digestive tract for a week.



http://www.flickr.com/photos/msittig/5901055699/sizes/m/in/ photostream/

http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=fact-or-fiction-chewing-gum-takes-seven-years-to-digest

For each of the following, choose whether the statement is TRUE or FALSE and give a brief explanation of how you know. . .

TRUE or FALSE

Einstein failed high school math.



http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Einstein1921\_by\_F\_Schmutzer\_2.jpg

For each of the following, choose whether the statement is TRUE or FALSE and give a brief explanation of how you know. . .

#### FALSE

Einstein failed high school math.

FACT: Einstein never failed math. By age 15, he had mastered calculus.

http://www.time.com/time/specials/packages/article/ 0.28804.1936731\_1936743\_1936758.00.html



http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Einstein1921\_by\_F\_Schmutzer\_2.jpg

## **Pop Quiz!** All of these urban myths are False!



## Kids on Love

#### What is the proper age to get married?

"No age is good to get married at. You got to be a fool to get married." (Freddie, 6)

#### What do most people do on a date?

"Dates are for having fun and people should use them to get to know each other. Even boys have something to say if you listen long enough." (Lynnette, 8)

#### Why love happens between two people...

"No one is sure why it happens, but I heard it has something to do with how you smell. That's why perfume and deodorant are so popular." (Jan, 9)

#### Misconceptions - Alternative Conceptions Prior Knowledge

- Misinformation (Pop Quiz)
- Prior learning in conflict (Private Universe)

#### Why do we care about misconceptions?

- Misconceptions can impede learning
- Students generally unaware that their conceptions are incorrect
- Misconceptions can be entrenched & difficult to correct
- Learning entails replacing or reorganizing knowledge
- Conceptual change needs to happen to replace misconceptions

# **Complexity of learning**

#### Blank Slates v. Clever Minds

V.



http://www.flickr.com/photos/rdecom/7029138039/sizes/m/in/photostream/

#### **Funnel Model**



Constructivism

# What can we do about misconceptions?

- Create student conflict through recognition of anomalies
- Construct and use models
- **Diversify** instruction
- Raise student metacognition and reflection



# **Ocean Misconceptions**

#### **Physical Aquatic Science**

- There are many disconnected oceans
- Water in the ocean stays in one place
- Waves cause currents
- Understanding physics & chemistry are not important to understanding ocean biology
- The coast and coastlines are static and do not change over time
- The ocean is the same depth everywhere
- Islands float
- Sand is made of salt



- Research Goal: Explore a never-before mapped section of the ocean floor.
  - Using new technology (single-beam sonar) look for prominent geologic features



• Preliminary Data Needed: So you can go back to funding agency and request additional money

#### **Activity Goals**

- Use data to generate a mapping procedure, interpret results
- Access accuracy of investigation

#### This activity:

- Recognizes science as a human endeavor grounded in history
- Engages students in the practices of science (e.g. making predictions based on evidence and learning by analysis)
- Allow modifications of procedures and hypotheses based on new information

**Part A:** Collect preliminary data so you can go back to your funding agency and request additional funds

- Sonar: (aka skewers) for 20 deep water soundings
- Promising deep water research site: aka covered box



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**Part B:** Based on your preliminary research, your funding agency has granted you additional funds!

• Develop a mapping procedure.

Part C: Carry our your intended procedure

• Additional Cruise: 10 minutes

## **Color Coding**

## **Contour Lines**



http://soundwaves.usgs.gov/2004/01/hawaii-sea-floor.jpg

Red:to cm
Orange:to cm
Yellow:to cm
Green:to cm
Blue:to cm
Purple:tocm



