CANDY BAR LAB QUESTION ANSWER KEY:

1. Using the candy bar as a model for a portion

of the earth, what do each layer represent?

Don’t forget to label your sketch.

chocolate - the surface of the land

caramel - the molten material inside the Earth

2. Describe the consistency of the candy bar layers. How do they compare and contrast with one

another?

chocolate - brittle, cracked

caramel/nougat - chewy, gooey, thick, sticky

3. Using the candy bar as a model for a portion of Earth, what do each of the candy bar layers

represent?

The top layer of chocolate represents Earth’s brittle lithosphere, broken into plates. The caramel and nougat represent the asthenosphere, where the material is solid yet still able to flow

4. Describe what you observed when the stretched candy bar was pushed together. What might

you expect to see at the point on Earth where two plates collide?

The chocolate broke off and the caramel got pushed upward. This formed a chunk of caramel above the layer of chocolate where the cracks were. We might expect to see a mountain or a trench where 2 plates collide.

5. Your fingers did the pulling and pushing, that’s not a natural geologic process!…What does cause the motion of the plates?

Solid rock moves in the lithosphere because of the strong heat, carrying the plates.

6. If you are standing on top of a very high mountain in the Rockies, Alps or Himalayas, what might you infer about the rate of plate movement or the size of the plate that met?

The plates must have been very heavy and large, and moved quicker than average because the mountains are so high.