

Sea Floor Spreading Graphic Organizer

Name: _____

General Claim – “Harry Hess developed the theory of Sea Floor Spreading. He believed that the molten material coming up at mid-ocean ridges was forcing older crust outwards, spreading the sea floor apart.”



Molten Material



Age Drilling Samples



Magnetic Stripes (optional)

Evidence

What did the rock at the Mid Ocean Ridges look like?

What do the shapes of the rock tell us?

Evidence

What did Harry Hess discover about the age of rocks at various distances from Mid Ocean Ridges?

Evidence

What did Harry Hess discover about the pattern of magnetic stripes on the sea floor?

Why would iron in the sea floor line up in different directions?



Analysis

What does Hess believe the molten material does – in the process of sea-floor spreading?

Analysis

How do the ages of drilling samples support the idea that the sea floor is spreading?

Analysis

How does the alternating pattern of magnetic stripes support sea-floor spreading?

(Hint: If the sea floor was formed all at once, the pattern would not alternate)

Conclusion – (rephrase your original claim with confidence!)