

# Mountain Building

**Time:** 10-15 minutes

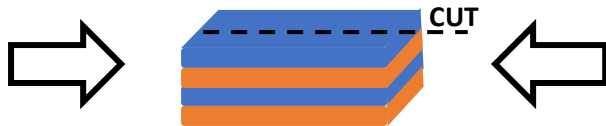
**Materials:** boards or plates to work on / salt dough / table knives to cut dough

**Preparation:** make salt dough in 2 distinct colours

**Summary:** Demonstrate the folding of sedimentary rocks as a result of collisional forces, and the creation of mountain belts.

**Instructions:** (*this is best carried out in pairs*)

1. Roll out two rectangles (approx. 10cm x 5cm) from each colour of dough
2. Stack the rectangles with alternating colours to create four layers
3. Place a flat, open hand along both of the short edges
4. Push hands together until the distance between them is roughly half
5. Remove hands and cut through layers at right angles to the push direction



**Concepts/explanations:**

Sedimentary rocks are generally deposited in horizontal layers. During mountain building events, for example when two continents come together, these layers are compressed and the layers often become folded in order to accommodate some of the shortening.

Around 450 million years ago, the continents containing Scotland and England collided. The pushing up of the sediments that had previously formed the floor of the ocean between them created the Southern Uplands.