

GEOL 15 Spring 2014

Activity 1: Sliding Brick

Name: _____ Date: _____

We have 3 “bricks,” sandpaper of 2 grits, some surgical tubing, and a winch (not a wench). The bricks are different (how?). The grits are different (how)? Can we quantify/qualify these differences? Remember that stress is defined as a force applied to an area. Use the back side of this paper if you need to.

We will use this apparatus as a model of plate tectonics and earthquake faults (like we saw in the animation). The animation was your initial observation.

Prior to Experiment: What do the different parts of our model represent?

Brick:

Sandpaper/base:

Surgical Tubing:

Winch/Elbow Grease:

Which brick will “stick” more? Why do you think so (hypothesis)?

Which grit will “stick” more? Why do you think so (hypothesis)?

Conduct the experiment and take some notes:

Which brick “stuck” more?

Which grit “stuck” more?

After the Experiment: Was your hypothesis correct? If so, why? If not, why not?