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- Investigation of relationships between tectonics, the carbon cycle, and the climate with an emphasis on the impact on the climate and the atmospheric  $\text{CO}_2$  cycle of major tectonic events such as plate movements, shrinkage of equatorial seas, mountain range uplift, and the opening/closing of seaways.

- Leading international collaborations on projects on monsoon evolution and the dispersal of human ancestors during the Neogene periods.

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