

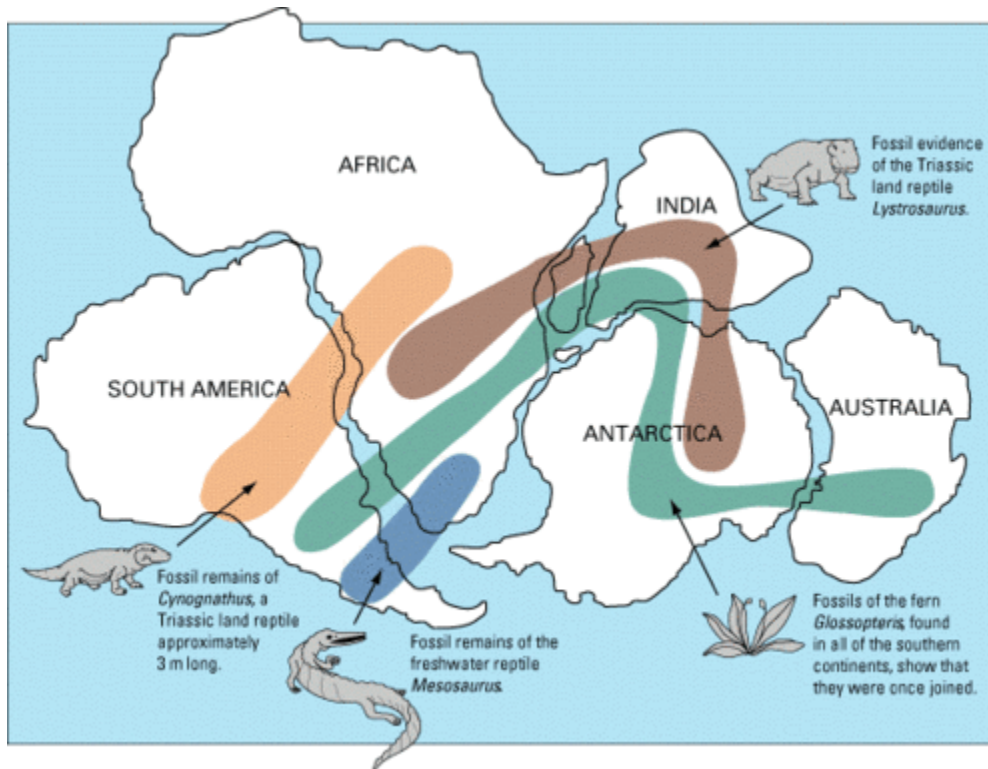
Evidence of Continental Drift

Notes and diagrams: Alfred Wegener came up with Continental Drift. His evidence was...

Identical rocks were found on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean, they were the same type and same age.

Mountain ranges were matched up and they had the same rock types, structures, and ages, and now they are on opposite sides of the Atlantic Ocean. For example, the Appalachians of the Eastern United States and Canada, they are just like the mountain ranges in Easter Greenland, Ireland, Great Britain, and Norway.

Also, he found evidence from fossils. These fossils were the same species of extinct plants and animals of the same age, but they are now on different continents widely separated. For example, fossils of the seed fern *Glossopheris* are found across all of the Southern Continents, but the plant seeds were too heavy to be carried across the ocean by wind. Another example is, *Mesosaurus* fossils are found in South America and South Africa but the reptile could only swim in fresh water. *Cynognathus* and *Lystrosaurus* were reptiles that lived on land, but both of these animals were unable to swim, let alone swim across wide seas.



Questions:

What is one piece of evidence for continental drift?

Why did Wegener think of continental drift?

Who is Alfred Wegener?

Why is Pangea called Pangea?

Why cant fish fossils be used for evidence for continental drift?

Answer key:

1-there were fossils the same age and species in different places around the world

2-because all the continents fit together like a puzzle

3-Alfred Wegener is a scientist who came up with some theories about geology

4-Pan means to separate and it is connected to continental drift

5-Because fish can swim from continent to continent so there could be the same type of fish on different continents