

The Puzzle of Pangaea: Instructions

Purpose: to study the process that Alfred Wegener and other scientists used to create and support the theory of continental drift.

As you "travel" to each continent...

1. First, match your continent with the shape of the continent you are visiting.
2. Next, label your continent with its letter and trace the arrow indicating "NORTH".
3. Then, read through the evidence found on that continent. Mark the appropriate locations on your continent with the symbols given.

After you have gathered evidence from every continent (nine total)...

1. Cut out your continents
2. Looking at the fossil and rock evidence, try to piece together the land masses as they would have been before Pangaea separated.
3. Just like our continents today do not form an exactly perfect fit if pieced together, yours will not be an absolutely perfect fit. It will be pretty close!
4. Once you decide how the continents go, glue or tape your pieces onto another piece of paper.

After your puzzle is put together...

Write a summary (in paragraph form) that includes answers to the following questions.

1. What evidence did you use to piece together your continents?
2. What evidence did Alfred Wegener use to support his theory of continental drift?
3. Why did it take so long for the scientific community to accept continental drift even after enormous amounts of overwhelming evidence supported the theory?

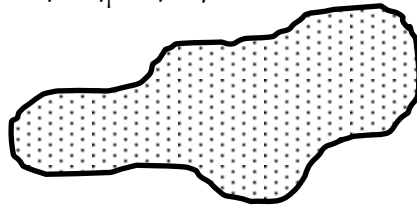
The Puzzle of Pangaea:

Continent A

1. Remnants of ancient sand dunes were found stretching across the northern third of this continent.



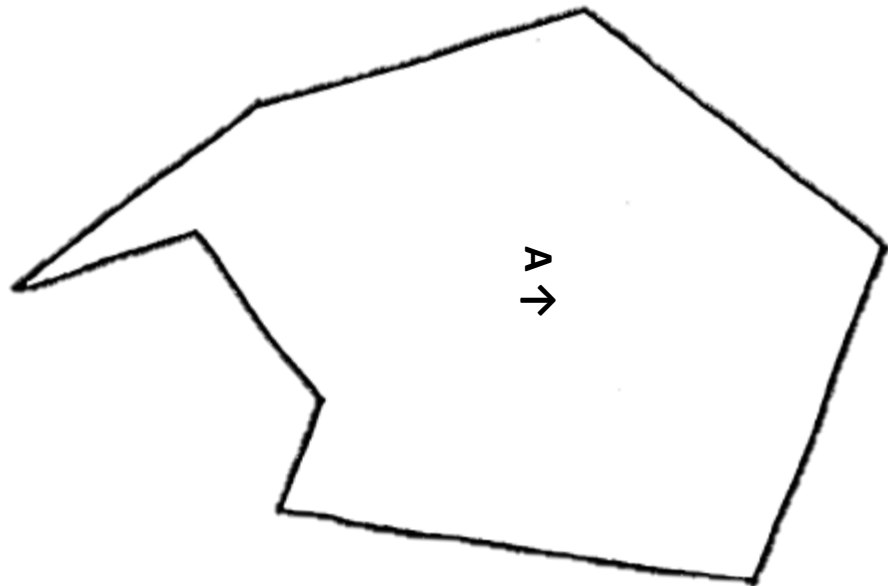
2. The southernmost peninsula of this continent was once spanned by a shallow sea. A great salt bed was left when the sea evaporated.



3. There is a range of uplift mountains found along the east coast of this continent. These mountains approach the coast toward the north and then seem to disappear into the ocean.



4. This fossil of *Falsiphus crustaceus* was found on the southeastern corner of this continent.

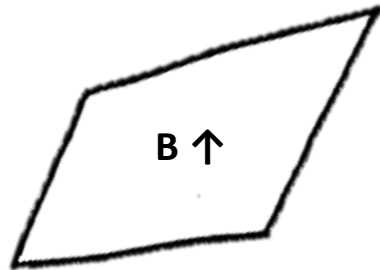


The Puzzle of Pangaea: Continent B

1. Remnants of ancient sand dunes were found stretching across the northern half of this land mass.

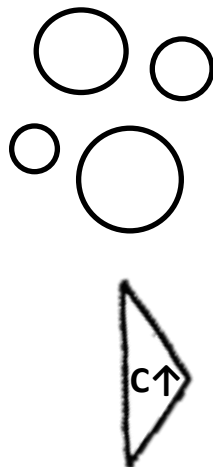


2. In the southwest corner of this land mass, a few uplift mountains were found.



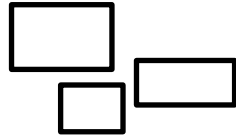
The Puzzle of Pangaea: Continent C

1. Fossiliferous limestone is found in the bedrock on the southern tip of this small land mass.

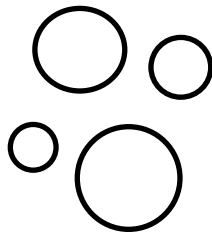


The Puzzle of Pangaea: Continent D

1. This red granite bedrock is prevalent in the northwest corner of this continent.



2. This fossiliferous limestone is found on the eastern half of the continent's northern shore.



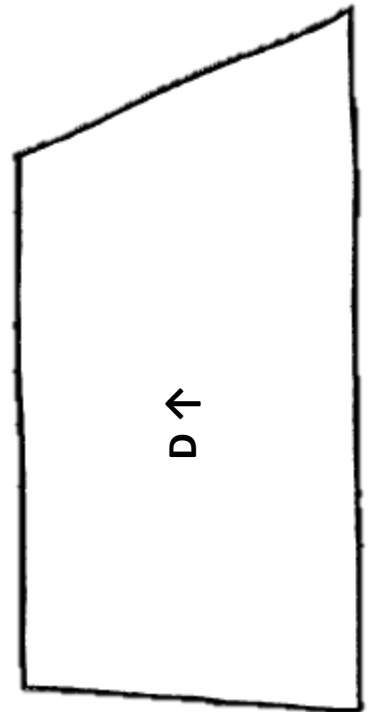
3. A fault-block mountain range cuts across the northwest corner of this continent.



4. Glacial till and moraines are found all over this continent.



5. The fossil of the sea creature *Spiralis funkki* was found on the southeast corner of this continent.

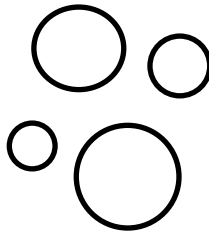


The Puzzle of Pangaea: Continent E

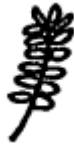
1. A small number of fault-block mountains are located on the southern tip of this continent.



2. Fossiliferous limestone is found on the southeastern corner of this continent



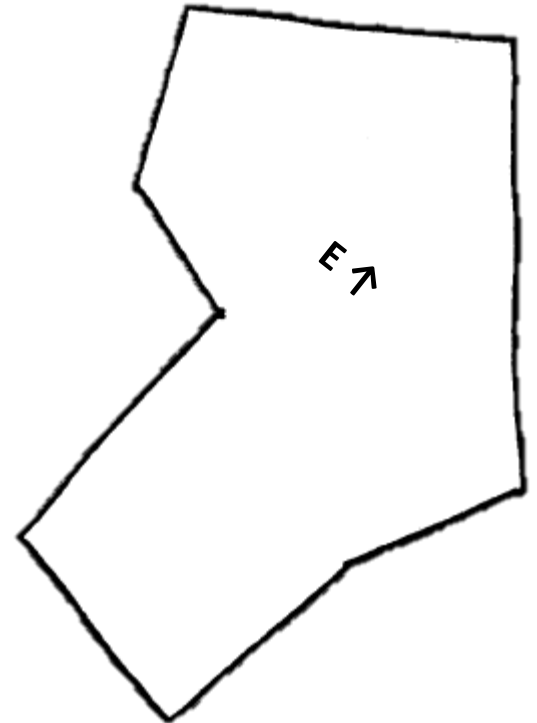
3. Fossils of the ancient plant *Glossopteris* are abundant along the entire west coast.



4. *Falsiphus crustaceus* fossils have been discovered on the northwestern shoreline of this continent.

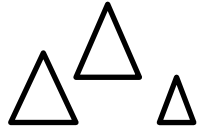


5. The fossils of the snail *Ogalinus dizzum* is found on the northeastern shoreline (the most eastern part of the continent).



The Puzzle of Pangaea: Continent F

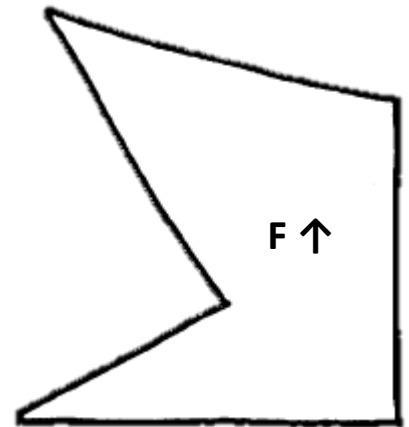
1. This sandstone forms the bedrock on the northwest point of this continent.



2. Scarring on the land indicated that this entire continent used to be covered by glaciers.

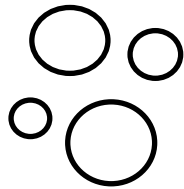


3. These fossilized shells of *Spiralis funkki* are abundant on the southwest point of this continent.

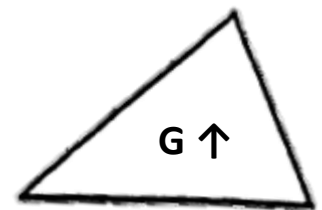


The Puzzle of Pangaea: Continent G

1. Limestone containing fossils is located on the western tip of this landmass.



2. Pieces of sandstone have been found on the eastern half of this continent's southern coast.



The Puzzle of Pangaea: Continent

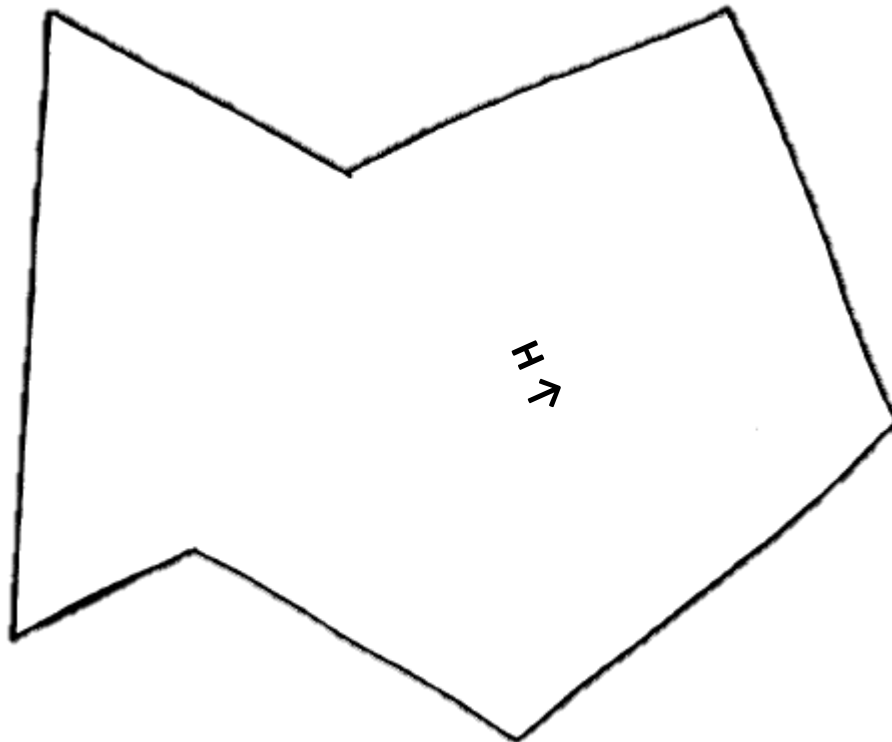
1. Sand dunes once existed along the northern third of this continent.



2. Remnants of uplift mountains are found on the westernmost corner of this continent.

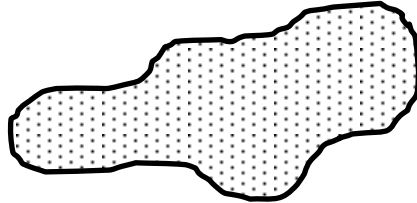


3. These fossils of *Ogalinus dizzum* are plentiful on the southern tip of this continent.



The Puzzle of Pangaea: Continent I

1. Salt beds cover the northwestern area of this continent.



2. The plant *Glossopteris* used to thrive along the northeast coastline.



3. The southern tip of this continent was once covered with glacial ice.



4. A fault-block mountain range borders the southwestern coastline, then cuts to the east and disappears into the ocean.



5. Red granite bedrock is located along the southeastern coast.

