

**Skill Check**

- Observing
- Predicting
- Communicating
- Modelling

**Safety**

- Be careful when handling the scissors.

**Materials**

- photocopy of continents
- scissors
- 21.5 cm × 28 cm sheet of paper
- glue

**Science Skills**

Go to Science Skill 2 for help with stating an hypothesis.

Scientists have used many separate lines of evidence to determine how the continents might once have fit together. In this activity, you, too, will use various pieces of evidence to reconstruct the supercontinent Pangaea.

**Question**

How did the continents fit together before Pangaea broke apart?

**Procedure**

1. Obtain a photocopy of the continents from your teacher. Cut out each continent, trimming the pieces just to the edge of the dotted lines. The dotted lines represent the true continental edges, the continental shelves.
2. Use the clues provided in the legend below and the shapes of the continents to help you reconstruct Pangaea. Piece together the continent shapes into a supercontinent on a separate piece of paper, but do not glue them down yet.
3. Once you have assembled your pieces, check with your teacher before gluing them to the blank sheet of paper.
4. Copy the legend below onto the paper with your map of Pangaea.
5. Clean up and put away the materials you have used.

Fossils	Glacial Deposits	Matching Folded Mountains	Coal Deposits

**Analyze**

1. Which continents were easiest to fit together? Explain why.
2. Of the pieces of the evidence that you used to reconstruct Pangaea, which provided the best clues as to how the continents were once joined? Justify your answer.
3. (a) Were there any pieces of Pangaea that you found difficult to place?  
(b) If so, what other evidence would have helped you to place these pieces?

**Conclude and Apply**

1. (a) In a few sentences, summarize the steps you took to reconstruct Pangaea.  
(b) How was the process you took similar to the methods Alfred Wegener used to support the continental drift theory?
2. Why did you use several pieces of evidence to reconstruct Pangaea, not just one?
3. (a) Hypothesize where the continents might be situated in 200 million years.  
(b) Describe how ecosystems of British Columbia's west coast might change as a result. Justify your answers.

**Goal** • Use this page to complete Conduct an Investigation 12-1C, Piecing Together Pangaea.

