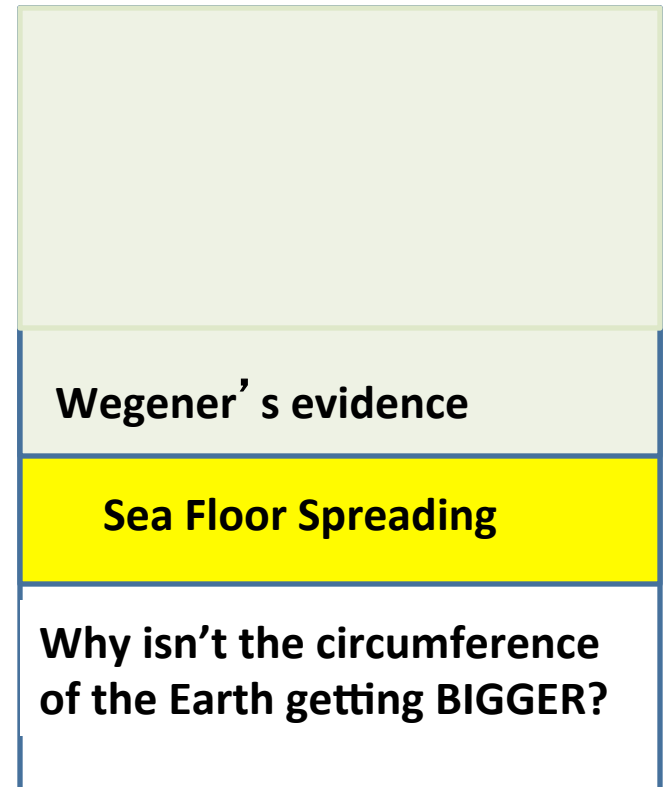
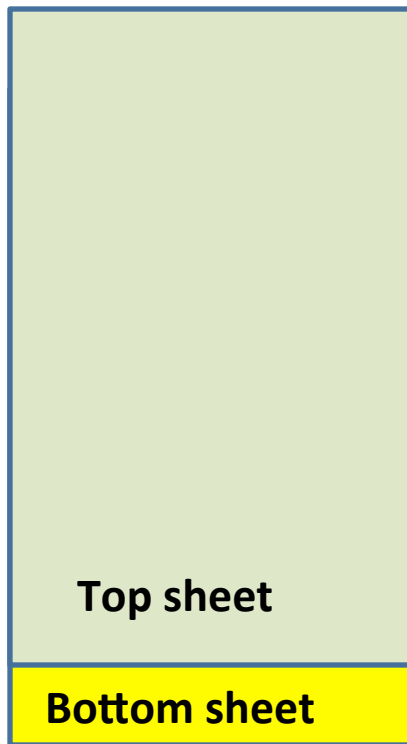


Continental Drift Foldable

Fold two sheets of paper and label as follows

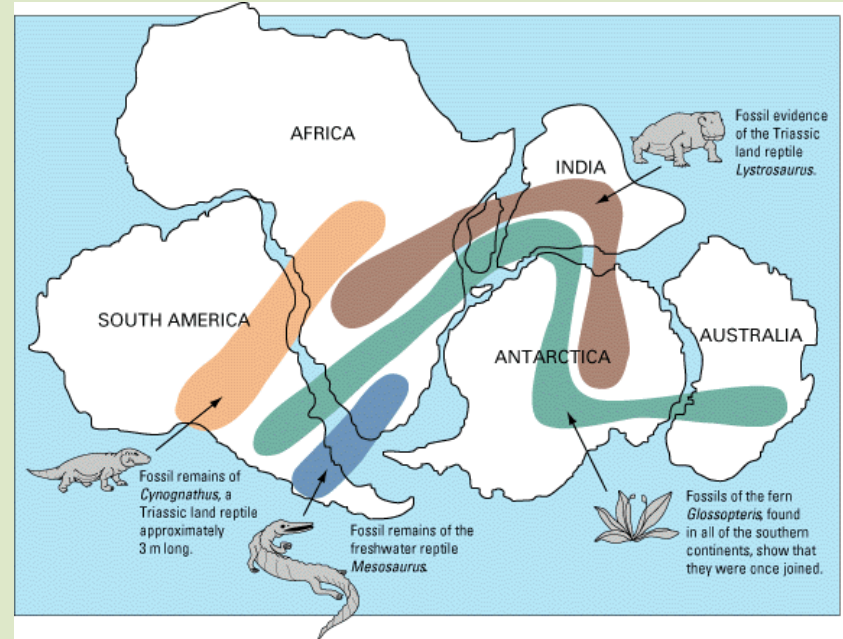
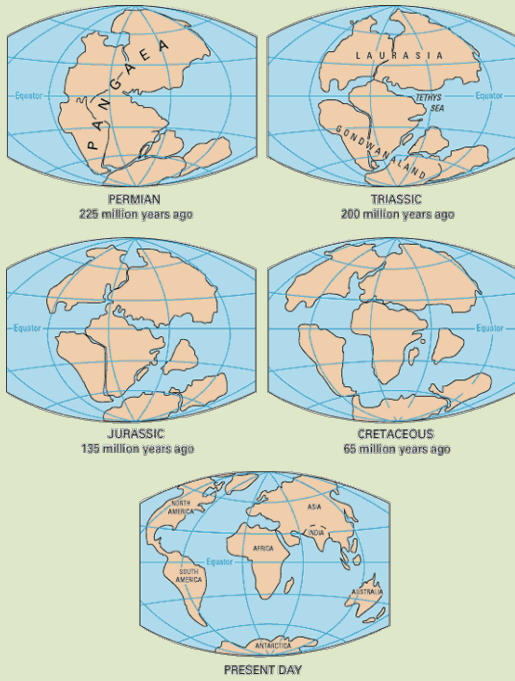


Wegener's Evidence

Wegener noticed that earth's continents appeared to fit together like a puzzle. He hypothesized that they were once joined as a single landmass – Pangaea

Evidence:

1. Mesosaurus fossils in S. America and W. Africa – nowhere else in the world
2. Climate: tropical plant fossils found in Greenland, near the arctic circle, and Antarctica. South African rock formations show evidence of ice sheet scratches
3. Geology: rock layers in Brazil match those in W. Africa. Appalachian Mtns have limestone similar to Scotland's Highlands



Sea Floor Spreading

Scientists mapping ocean floor found huge underwater mountain ranges—Mid Ocean Ridges

- 1.Ridges form along cracks in the crust. Molten rock rises through crack, forms new crust, older material is pulled away from the crack
- 2.Drilling samples of sea floor reveal youngest rock is closed to the ridge, oldest is further away. *Oldest ocean floor is younger than continental crust.*
- 3.Ocean trenches found on sea floor. Oceanic crust sinks under continental crust and melts into asthenosphere.

Magnetic Reversals

- Minerals in magma rising through the mid ocean ridge align themselves with earth's magnetic pole
- As the rock cools, the minerals stay fixed in this position, like a compass
- **Earth's poles periodically reverse. The "stripes" of rock along the ocean floor record these reversals.**

