

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Continental Drift Puzzle Lab**

**Introduction:** In groups of 2, pick up 2 pieces of A3 paper. To complete this activity you need to follow the procedure below. Each student will individually hand in their own answers to the “Discussion” questions.

**Purpose:** To make the **super-continent Pangaea** from the supplied puzzle pieces.

**Materials:** continent shapes page, glue, scissors, pencil crayons

- Procedure:**
1. Cut out the continents from the handout “A Plate Tectonics Puzzle”.
  2. Piece the continents together on the Plate Tectonics Puzzle (Earth) sheet. Use the clues provided in the legend and the shapes of the continents.
  3. Once you have put them in place, **CHECK with the teacher before gluing.**
  4. Color the oceanic (blue) and continental crusts (green).

**Discussion:** Answer the following questions in **full sentences** on **lined A4 paper**.

1. You have just created a large land mass. What was this supercontinent called that once contained nearly all of the continental crust? Research what the name means.
2. Which continents were easiest to fit together?
3. Of the pieces of evidence you used to make your “supercontinent” which one was the most useful? Explain
4. Where there any pieces of the super continent you found difficult to place? Why?
5. Do you think that the way continents fit together is convincing evidence for the theory of plate tectonics? Why or why not?
6. Is Earth's surface stable and stationary now? Was it ever in the past? Do you think it will be stable in the future?

**Conclusion:**

1. In a few sentences summarize the steps you took to construct your supercontinent.
2. After assembling your supercontinent, discuss what the term continental drift means?