

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

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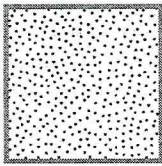
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## LAB: WEGENER'S PUZZLING CONTINENTS

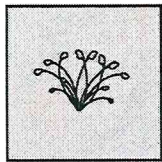
### Directions:

1. Label the land masses on each sheet. Color the fossil areas to match the legend below.
2. Cut out each of the continents along the edge of the continental shelf (the outermost dark line). Alfred Wegener's fossil evidence for continental drift is shown on the cut-outs.
3. Try to logically piece the continents together so that they form a giant supercontinent. Use Wegener's fossil evidence to place them in the correct positions.
4. When you are satisfied with the 'fit' of the continents, glue the land masses down on a piece of paper and answer the analysis questions that follow.

### Key to Wegener's Puzzling Evidence – Fossils:



The continents are surrounded by the **continental shelf** (stippled pattern), which extends beyond the continent until there is a large change in slope.

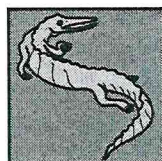


By about 300 million years ago, a unique community of plants had evolved known as the **European flora**. Fossils of these plants are found in Europe and other areas. Color the areas with these fossils yellow.



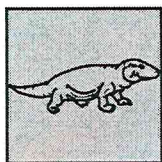
Fossils of the fern **Glossopteris** have been found in these locations. Glossopteris had very heavy seeds that could not move by wind.

Color the areas with these fossils green.



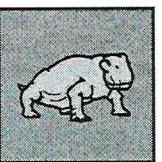
Fossil remains of the half meter-long fresh water reptile called **Mesosaurus**. Mesosaurs had limbs for swimming, but could also walk on land. Other evidence suggests that although they lived in water at times, they were not strong swimmers.

Color the areas with these fossils blue.



Fossil remains of **Cynognathus**, a land reptile approximately 3 meters long that lived during the Early Mesozoic Era, about 230 million years ago. It was a weak swimmer.

Color the areas with these fossils orange.



Fossil evidence of the Early Mesozoic, land-dwelling reptile **Lystrosaurus**. They reproduced by laying eggs on land. In addition, their anatomy suggests that these animals were probably very poor swimmers. Color the areas with these brown.