

Drifting Continents

◆ **Understanding Main Ideas**

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Fill in the blanks in the table below.

Evidence for Continental Drift

Type of Evidence	Example of Evidence
Evidence from 1. _____	a. Mountain ranges in South America and 2. _____ line up b. European coal fields match with similar coal fields in North America
Evidence from Fossils	a. Fossils of the plant 3. _____ found in rocks on widely separated landmasses
Evidence from 4. _____	a. Fossils of tropical plants found near Arctic Ocean b. Scratches in rocks made by 5. _____ found in South Africa

Answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper.

- 6. State the hypothesis of continental drift.
- 7. Why did most scientists reject Wegener's theory for nearly a half century?

◆ **Building Vocabulary**

Fill in the blank to complete each statement.

- 8. All the continents were once joined together in a supercontinent called _____, meaning "all lands."
- 9. A(n) _____ is any trace of an ancient organism preserved in rock.
- 10. Wegener's theory that the continents slowly moved over Earth's surface became known as _____.

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