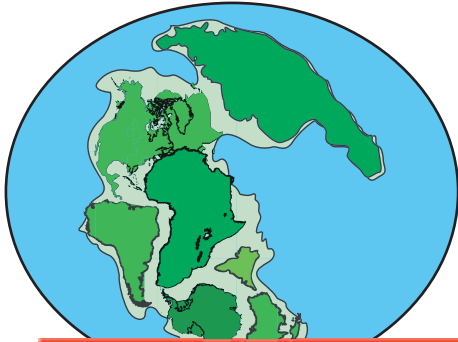


Pangea: The Supercontinent



Pangea was not your typical continent. In fact, it was the ultimate supercontinent, a vast landmass that existed long before our time. Pangea, which means "all lands" in Greek, was a geological wonder that had a profound impact on

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driven by plate tectonics, the same geological forces that continue to shape our world today.

Pangea's existence had some remarkable consequences. The most obvious was the distribution of life on Earth. With all the continents joined together, plants and animals could move freely across the landmass. This facilitated the mixing and spreading of species, allowing them to evolve and adapt to different environments. It was during the era of Pangea that some of the Earth's first reptiles appeared.

Pangea: The Supercontinent

However, Pangea's unity was not meant to last forever. Around 175 million years ago, the Earth's tectonic plates began to shift once more. Slowly but surely, Pangea started to break apart. This process, known as continental drift, gave birth to the continents we recognize today: North America, South America, Africa, Europe, Asia, Australia, and Antarctica.

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1) What does the word "Pangea" mean, and where does it come from?

2) When did Pangea exist, and what was its unique characteristic?

3)

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5) What impact did Pangea's existence have on the distribution of life on Earth?

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6) What is continental drift, and when did it start to break Pangea apart?

7)

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8)

9) What important lesson does the history of Pangea teach us about Earth?

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- 10) Why is the study of Pangea and plate tectonics important for our understanding of Earth's history?
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