

Model Pangaea!

Procedure

- 1. Observe** Look at the shapes of the continents on the world map. Based on their shapes, describe how they might have once fit together as a supercontinent called Pangaea.

- 2. Use Models** Trace the shapes of all of the continents onto the tracing paper. Glue the tracing paper to the construction paper. Cut out the continents.

- 3. Hypothesize** Try to fit your continents together to form a supercontinent. Sketch your supercontinent in the space below. When you have fit all the continents together, check the map of Pangaea on page C44 to see how closely your supercontinent matches with scientists' reconstruction of Pangaea.

- 4. Predict** Based on how the continents fit together in Pangaea, predict the locations where you would expect to find similar rock types and fossils.

Conclusion

Write the answers to the questions below.

- 1. Use Models** Using your model, rearrange the continents in a different way. How might the world look today if the continents were in these positions?

- 2. Infer** Based on its locations in Pangaea and in the modern world, explain how the climate of North America might have changed from 200 million years ago to the present.

Investigate More!

Be an Inventor Globes are more accurate than flat maps. Using everyday materials, invent a spherical model of continental drift. How is your model useful? How is it not useful?