



THE SEVEN CONTINENTS KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER



World Map and Overview

-The surface of the planet is about 29% land. There are seven continents: Africa, Antarctica, Asia, Australia, Europe, North America and South America.



-A continent is a massive area of land that is separated from other areas of land by water or natural features.

-Five of the continents are connected to at least one other continent by land, whilst Antarctica and Australia are cut off from others by the oceans.

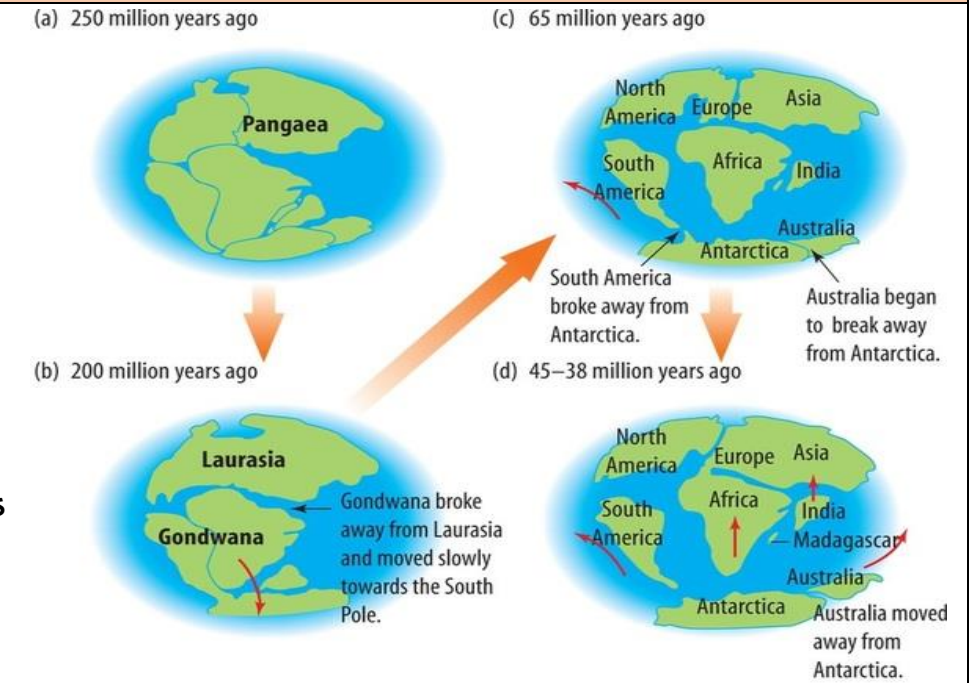
-Each continent has a wide range of land types, climates and animal life.

How the Continents Formed

-The continents haven't always looked as they do now – they are always moving (although very slowly!)

-This is called 'continental drift.' It happens because the tectonic plates under the earth's surface move.

-Around 250 million years ago, all of the land on earth was in one giant super-continent called Pangaea.



The Five Oceans



Asia

- Asia is the largest continent in the world.
- It is mainly located in the Eastern and Northern hemispheres.
- It contains countries like Russia, China and India.

Africa

- Africa is the 2nd largest continent.
- The continent straddles the Equator, with more of its landmass in the northern hemisphere.
- It contains countries like Egypt, Nigeria and Chad.



North America

- North America is the 3rd largest continent.
- It is mainly located in the western hemisphere.
- It contains countries such as the United States, Canada, Mexico and the Caribbean countries.

Europe

- Europe is the 2nd smallest continent.
- It is located in the northern hemisphere.
- It contains countries such as the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy and Spain.



South America

- South America is the 4th largest continent.
- It is located in the western hemisphere. It contains countries like Brazil, Argentina and Chile.

Australia

- Australia is the smallest continent in the world.
- It is sometimes called Oceania or Australasia. It contains Australia and New Zealand.



Antarctica

- Antarctica is the world's southernmost continent.
- It is the location of the South Pole. There are no countries. It is the coldest continent.



Top Ten Facts!

1. The equator passes through the continents of South America, Africa and Asia.
2. Until 1840, Antarctica was known as 'Terra Australis Incognita' ('Unknown Southern Land').
3. Asia has 1/3 of the land on earth.
4. Australia is sometimes known as an 'island continent.'
5. Europe is the only continent without any deserts.
6. Russia, the world's largest country, is in both Europe and Asia.
7. The smallest country, the Vatican City, is in Europe.
8. The highest mountain system, the Himalayas, is in Asia.
9. North America has every type of climate – Tropical, Dry, Continental, Moderate and Polar.
10. The largest rainforest, the Amazon, is in South America.

Continents by Size



8.6 million km²



10.2 million km²



14.2 million km²



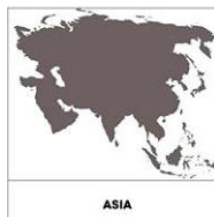
17.8 million km²



24.7 million km²



30.3 million km²



44.5 million km²

Largest Populations

