

Wegner was able to re-assemble the supercontinent Gondwana from clues found in geology, fossils, climate bands, magnetic orientation of rock and jigsaw fit of present continents. Many sources of evidence are often necessary to support new ideas. Nothing is ever proven in Science but hypotheses can be supported or disproved by evidence.

Science only accepts evidence (data) that is observable, measurable and repeatable.

Students are asked to reassemble a picture from clues. The original jigsaw may be made of bread, cake, cardboard or paper.

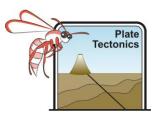


Activity Bread jigsaw (putting it back together)

Materials per student

- Old newspaper as a bench protector
- One slice of bread with the crusts cut off. A sandwich loaf usually has 24 slices. School canteens may save you "old" loaves that can then be frozen for this activity. The age does not matter as it will not be eaten

Plate Jigsaw - Teacher Notes



- Felt tip pens
- Tin lids, saucers
- PVA paint and paint brushes
- One plastic or paper sandwich bag. Sheets of newspaper can also be folded to make a bag for the painted slice

Place the bread slice on newspaper and draw/paint a simple picture or pattern on it.

Make sure the picture goes to the edges of the slice

Write your name on the bag, write a very simple description of the picture (three words or less) on the bag and place the bread slice on top for 5 minutes

(An unscrupulous teacher with an impatient class (me) wafted a hairdryer over the slices of bread for 3 minutes to dry the bread– It works! *Or*) Leave overnight to dry where your teacher indicates. (Out in the sunshine it will dry crisp in half a day. If the weather is wet you could also place in an oven at 100° C for one hour)

Break the slice into at least 8 pieces (about the size of your thumbnail) and return to the bag. These are the jigsaw pieces.

Gently shake the bag to mix up the pieces

Exchange your bag with another student and see if you can put the picture back together.

Draw the completed jigsaw picture below



What clues did you use to put it all back together? Description on bag, painted side/blank side, corners, straight cut edges, colour masses, straight lines

Would it have been easy to reassemble the picture using only one of the pieces of evidence above? Explain your answer No. You need several clues to build up the whole picture

How good was your "fit". Pretty good but small pieces were missing

How did this activity resemble Continental Drift Theory? Many clues were needed to support the theory