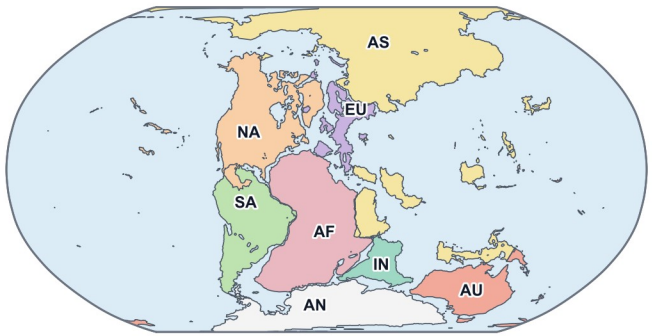
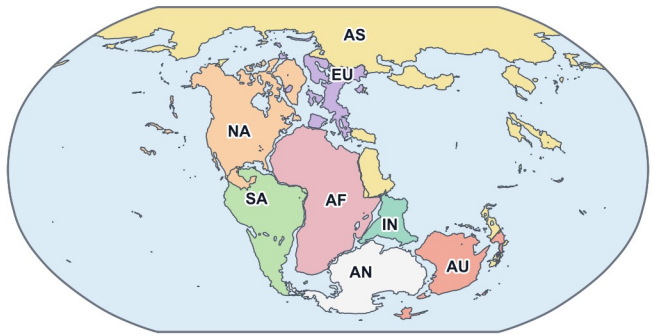
How Pangaea Broke Apart



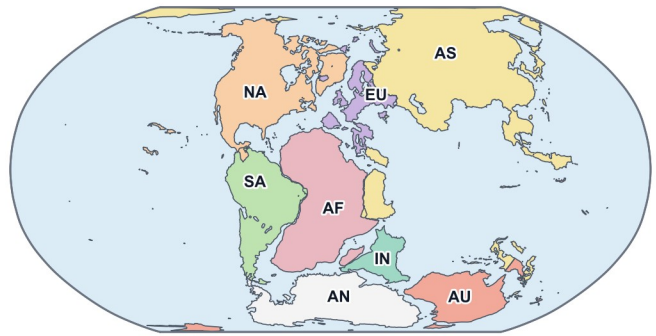
250 million years ago

Pangaea: nearly all the land is joined in one supercontinent.



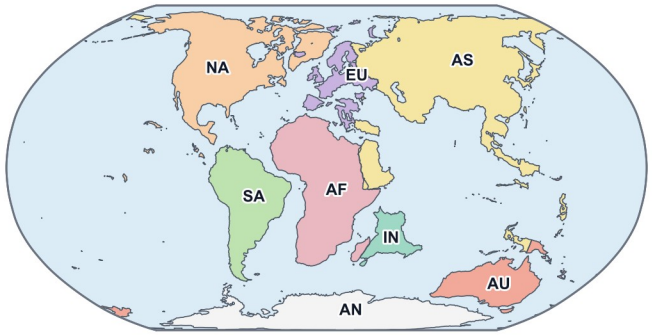
200 million years ago

Pangaea starts to crack. Rifts open where the Atlantic Ocean will form.



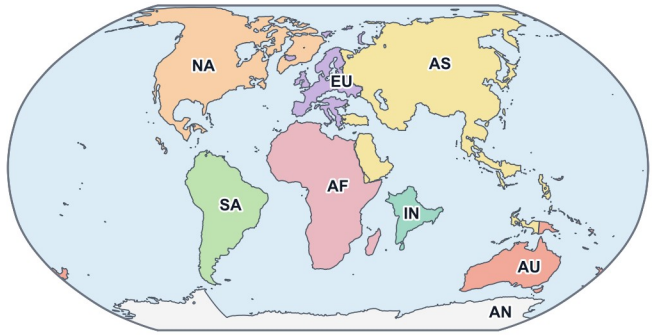
150 million years ago

Laurasia (north) and Gondwana (south) drift apart.



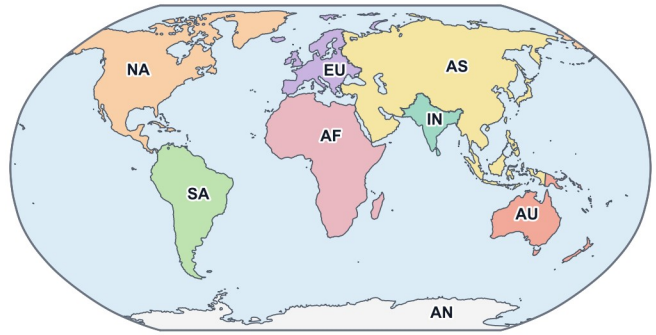
100 million years ago

South America and Africa have split. India breaks away and heads north.



66 million years ago

The dinosaurs die out. India is crossing the ocean toward Asia.



Today

India has crashed into Asia and pushed up the Himalayas. The Atlantic still widens about 2.5 cm (1 inch) a year.

NA North America
SA South America
EU Europe
AF Africa
AS Asia
IN India
AU Australia
AN Antarctica

Plate model: Merdith et al. (2021) via GPlates (EarthByte).

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