

## **Evidence from the continents (other than shape)**

**D. Paleontological data---there are about 15 plants and animals that are used. Listed are just 2—1 plant and 1 animal.**

### **1. *Glossopteris***

***Glossopteris* is a land plant found in South America, Africa, Antarctica, Australia, and India. Did this plant develop independently in 5 widely spaced regions? Biologists say ‘No. It starts in one place and spreads’. How did it get from Africa to South America and to other places?? Wind? Ocean currents? Birds??**

**Or, maybe these 5 continents were together (Gondwanaland) and spread through normal methods. If my next door neighbor to the south has dandelions, I am going to have dandelions because the south wind blows the**

seeds to my yard and they seem to flourish no matter how much Weed and Feed I use!

Since you know the Linnaean taxonomic classification scheme, what is *Glossopteris*?? Kingdom, phylum, class, order, family, genus, species???

## 2. *Mesosaurus*

*Mesosaurus* is a fresh water reptile found in South America, Africa, Antarctica, Australia, and India. Did this fresh water reptile develop independently in 5 widely spaced regions? Biologists say 'No. It starts in one place and spreads'. How did it get from Africa to South America and to other places?? Wind? Ocean currents? Birds??

Or, maybe these 5 continents were together (Gondwanaland) and spread through normal methods such as using the streams and rivers as 'highways'.