

**Cosmos Episode 9: The Lost Worlds of Planet Earth**

**Topics**: Geology, Pangaea, Continental Drift and Evolution

1. Why were insects able to grow much larger than they do today?
2. What type of life changed the earth so dramatically?
3. What is the waste product of trees?
4. What did Carbon Dioxide do the climate?
5. What did the dead trees turn into?
6. What type of life flourishes in brutal environments?
7. The Guadalupe Mountain Chain is the worlds largest what?
8. Until about 220 million years ago New England and North Africa were what?
9. What was Abraham Ortelius the first to recognize?
10. What did Alfred Wegener hypothesize?
11. What did Alfred Wegener Name the Supercontinent?
12. What happened to Alfred Wegener a day after his 50th Birthday?
13. What did Marie Tharp find at the bottom of the Atlantic?
14. What is the deepest canyon on earth?
15. Species at the bottom of the ocean can produce light in a process known as what?
16. The Triassic extinction offered an opportunity for which animal group?
17. What have Venus and Jupiter done to the Earth’s axis?
18. When did our current climate age begin?
19. How long should this current warm period last?
20. When will the continents unite again?

**Analysis**:

Why do you think mammals were able to survive the Triassic Extinction while dinosaurs died out?

Many scientists feel that climate change is the most important issue facing the world today. If the world gets to hot, ice caps melt and flooding occurs, if it gets to cold, we could enter a new ice age. Research how scientists hope to limit climate change in the future and explain some of the ideas that seem especially interesting to you.

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**Topics**: Geology, Pangaea, Continental Drift and Evolution

1. Why were insects able to grow much larger than they do today? More oxygen in the atmosphere
2. What type of life changed the earth so dramatically? Trees
3. What is the waste product of trees? Oxygen
4. What did Carbon Dioxide do the climate? Warmed it
5. What did the dead trees turn into? Coal
6. What type of life flourishes in brutal environments? Bacteria
7. The Guadalupe Mountain Chain is the worlds largest what? Fossil Reef
8. Until about 220 million years ago New England and North Africa were what? Next door neighbors
9. What was Abraham Ortelius the first to recognize? The striking, puzzle piece fit of the continents on both sides of the Atlantic
10. What did Alfred Wegener hypothesize? That there had once been a single supercontinent
11. What did Alfred Wegener Name the Supercontinent? Pangaea
12. What happened to Alfred Wegener a day after his 50th Birthday? He Died
13. What did Marie Tharp find at the bottom of the Atlantic? A Rift Valley
14. What is the deepest canyon on earth? The Mariana Trench
15. Species at the bottom of the ocean can produce light in a process known as what? Bioluminescence
16. The Triassic extinction offered an opportunity for which animal group? Mammals
17. What have Venus and Jupiter done to the Earth’s axis? Tilted it
18. When did our current climate age begin? About 10,000 years ago
19. How long should this current warm period last? Another 50,000 Years
20. When will the continents be united again? 250 million years from now

**Analysis**:

Why were mammals able to survive the Triassic Extinction while dinosaurs died out?

Many scientists feel that climate change is the most important issue facing the world today. If the world gets to hot, ice caps melt and flooding occurs, if it gets to cold, we could enter a new ice age. Research how scientists hope to limit climate change in the future.