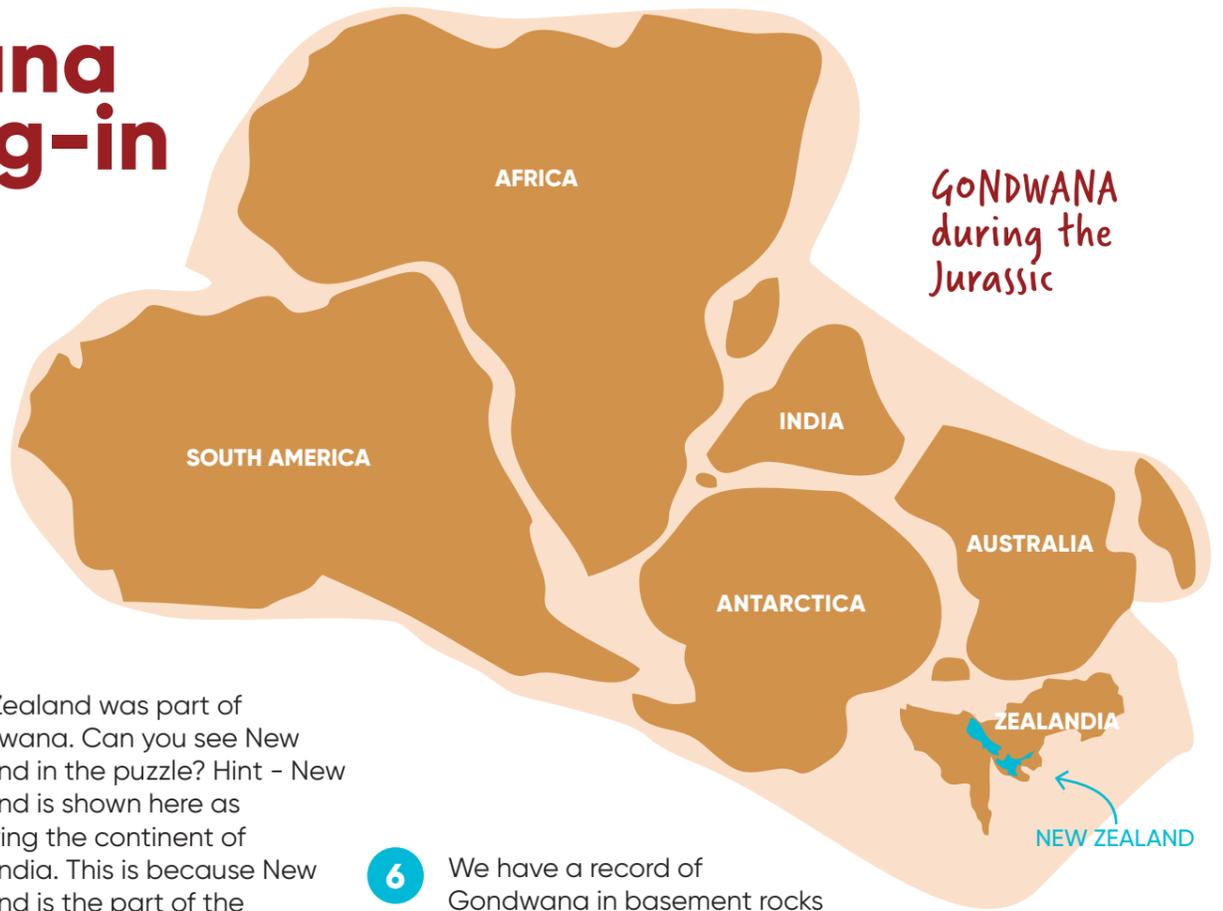


Gondwana colouring-in puzzle

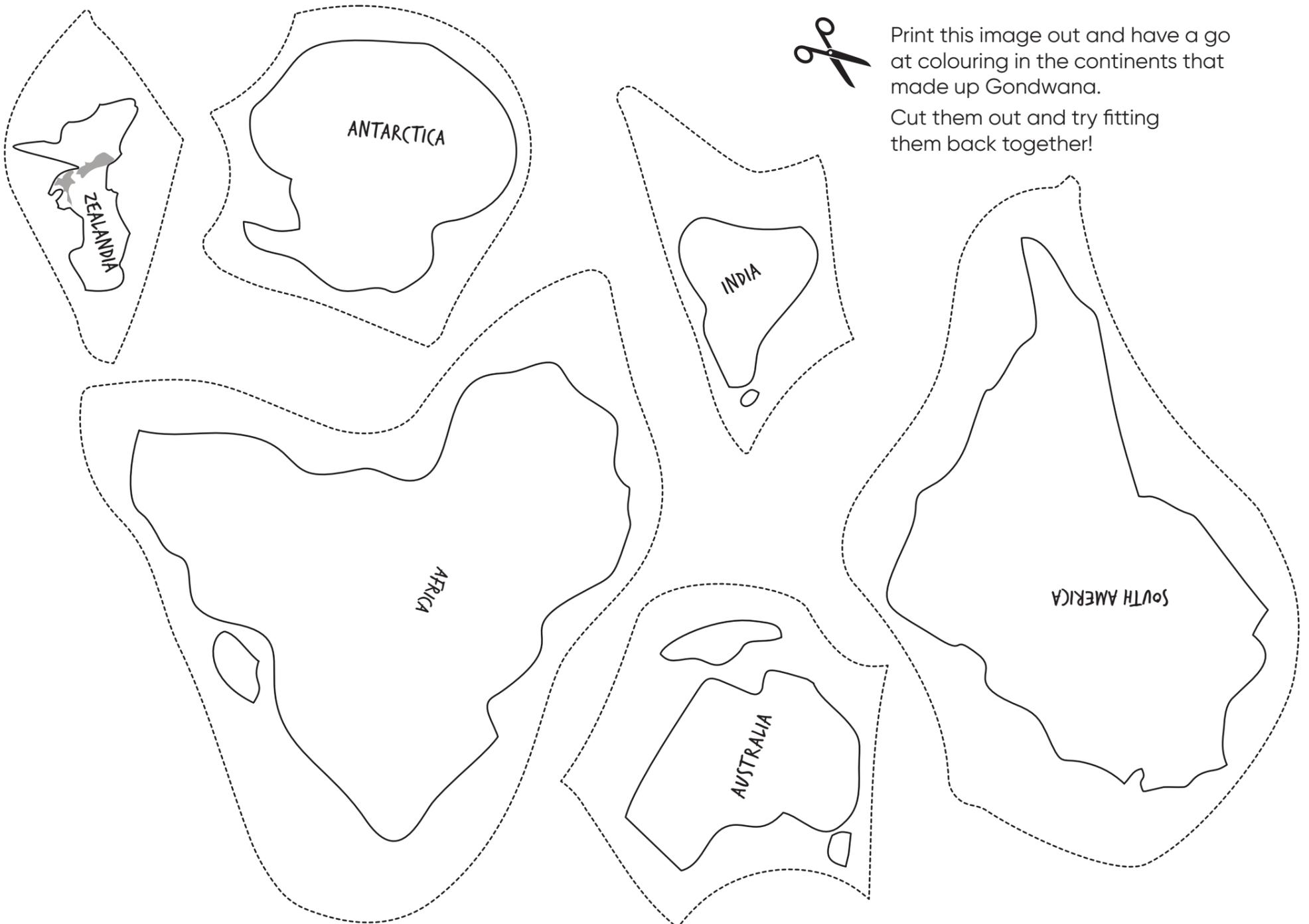


GONDWANA
during the
Jurassic

Fun facts about Gondwana

- 1 Pangea was a huge supercontinent that existed way back in the Triassic. Pangea broke up into two supercontinents - Laurasia and Gondwana
- 2 Gondwana began to break apart about 160 million years ago (Jurassic). It didn't all happen at once - it took a very long time (millions of years) because the individual continents separated at different times and did this slowly.
- 3 Gondwana was made of several of our modern-day continents - what continents do you recognise?
- 4 New Zealand was part of Gondwana. Can you see New Zealand in the puzzle? Hint - New Zealand is shown here as overlying the continent of Zealandia. This is because New Zealand is the part of the continent of Zealandia that is poking up above the sea!
We've shown the present outline of Zealandia and New Zealand, however they would have looked very different back in the Jurassic.
- 5 New Zealand started to break away from Gondwana about 80 million years ago (Cretaceous)
- 6 We have a record of Gondwana in basement rocks in the Waitaki Whitestone Geopark. These are the Torlesse Terrane and the Otago Schist. The overlying sediments and volcanic rocks that we have in the Geopark formed after Zealandia separated from Gondwana. The geology in the Geopark reveals the story of Zealandia - from Gondwana to present day!

Note - if you'd like to learn more about the Geological timescale and what Triassic, Jurassic and Cretaceous means you can check out our Geological Timescale page.



Print this image out and have a go at colouring in the continents that made up Gondwana. Cut them out and try fitting them back together!