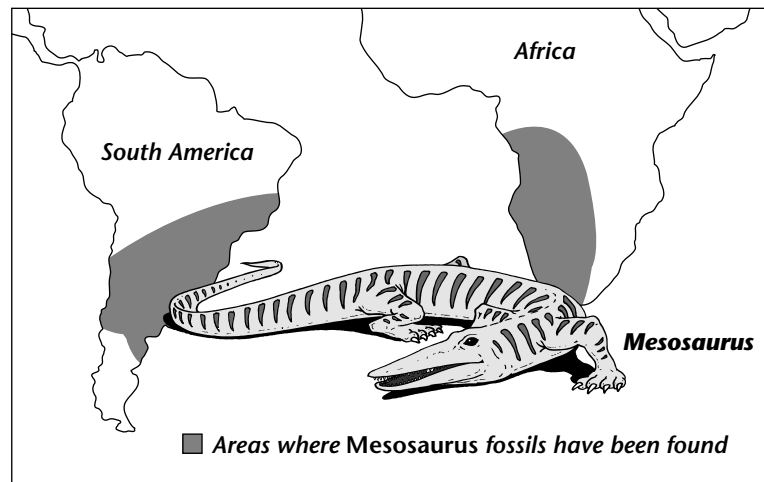


Ecosystems and Biomes ▪ Enrich**Organisms and Continental Drift**

Read the following descriptions. Then answer the questions on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Madagascar is a large island located about 400 kilometers off the southeast coast of Africa. Madagascar is home to about 15 species of monkeylike animals called lemurs that are found nowhere else in the world. Lemurs are related to the ancient ancestors of monkeys and apes that live in Africa today. What does this tell you about Madagascar's location millions of years ago? Why are there no lemurs in Africa today?
2. *Mesosaurus* was an aquatic reptile that lived in lakes and estuaries. Fossils of *Mesosaurus* have been found in eastern South America and southwestern Africa, as shown on the map below. No *Mesosaurus* fossils have ever been found anywhere else in the world. What could explain the existence of *Mesosaurus* fossils only in eastern South America and southwestern Africa?



3. Continental drift is still occurring today. For example, the western part of California moves north along the San Andreas fault at a rate of about 3.4 centimeters per year. Examine a map and find where the western part of California will be in 100 million years. How might that location affect the types of organisms that now live in the western part of California? (Assume that the climate of the new location will be the same in 100 million years as it is today.)