

Lesson 3-1 part 3.1 Vocabulary

- **Rifting**- the process by which Earth's crust breaks apart; can occur within continental crust or oceanic crust.
- **Terrane**- a piece of lithosphere that has a unique geologic history and that may be part of a larger piece of lithosphere, such as a continent.
- **Supercontinent cycle**- the process by which supercontinents form and break apart over millions of years.
- **Pangaea**- the supercontinent that formed 300 million years ago and that began to break up beginning 250 million years ago.
- **Panthalassa**- the single, large ocean that covered Earth's surface during the time the supercontinent Pangaea existed.