Alfred Wegener noticed that the continents seemed to fit together very well, almost like pieces of a broken jigsaw puzzle. This alone was not enough evidence to support his claim. However, there's more. Wegener found the same types of fossils on different continents, even though the said continents were miles apart from each other. He also saw that when different continents were put together, their mountain ranges appeared to connect. Even the coal deposits in different continents appeared to match with each other as well. Additionally, glacial deposits were present in places with warm or tropical climates, which implied that these areas were once somewhere else, but switched locations over time. Wegener claimed that the continents moved by plowing through the earth.

Despite this evidence, other scientists rejected his theory, as his explanation for how the continents moved was absurd and couldn't be true. Back then, scientists explained the phenomenon of similar fossils on different continents with bridges that went from one continent to another. Wegener died before anyone would believe him.

In the 1900s, a geologist named Marie Tharp was able to map out the ocean floor using depth data collected with sonar, revealing that the seafloor had deep valleys and tall mountains. When she compared the map with a seismic map, she noticed that the valleys and earthquakes matched perfectly. This suggested that Alfred Wegener's continental drift theory was right. Later, scientists found that the seafloor was spreading, further supporting the theory. Wegener was not entirely correct, however. The continents moved due to convection currents generated by the movement of magma in the mantle.