

Documentary: The Clash of the Americas

While watching the documentary take notes about the following Guiding/Focus Questions:

- How do scientists collect and use fossils as evidence?
- What important role did the Gatun Formation have in scientist Catalina Pimiento's research on Megalodon sharks?

<b>Scientist</b>	<b>Location of dig site</b>	<b>Type of Fossil &amp; where organism came from (N. or S. America)</b>	<b>Importance of findings - what does it mean?</b>
<i>EX: Carlos Jaramillo</i>	<i>Panama Canal , what was the southernmost part of N. America</i>	<i>jaw bone of an ancient horse from N. America and rhinoceros bone</i>	<i>this proves that many browsing animals expanded their range southward, settling at the southern edge of N. America before the land bridge was formed.</i>



Big Picture Reflection Organizer

Describe the EFFECTS each of the following CAUSES did or could have had on organisms, ecosystems, or world when the land bridge was formed about 9.5 million years ago.

Cause	Effect	Evidence (fossils, models, theories)
Expansion of the Panama Canal today		
Panama land bridge separating the Pacific & Atlantic oceans		
Panama land bridge for land animals		
N. American species migrating to S. America		
S. American species migrating to N. America		
Migration of herbivores or prey species		
Tar pits		
Panama land bridge specifically in regards to Megalodon sharks		
Gatun Formation used as a nursery for Megalodon sharks		