SCIENCE · UNIT REVIEW

Biological Evolution: Fossil Evidence

Grade 3 Science • Fossils as Evidence of the Past

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Learning Target: I can use fossil evidence to explain what organisms and environments were like long ago.

1 **What is a fossil?**

Circle the best answer.

- ☐ A living animal
- ☐ The remains or traces of living things from long ago
- ☐ A new kind of rock
- ☐ A weather pattern

2 **What does a paleontologist do?**

Write one sentence.

_____

_____

3 **Scientists find a fish fossil in dry, rocky land. What can this fossil tell scientists about this place long ago?**

Use the fossil as evidence.
Explain your thinking.

THINK LIKE A SCIENTIST

A fish needs water to live.
The fossil was found in rocks on dry land today.

_____

_____

4 **Why are rock layers useful when scientists study fossils?**

Choose the best answer.

- ☐ They show today's weather.
- ☐ They help scientists learn about when fossils lived.
- ☐ They make animals come alive.
- ☐ They tell scientists what an animal will eat tomorrow.

5 **An animal fossil has many sharp, pointed teeth. What can scientists infer?**

Circle the best answer and explain why.

- ☐ It was probably a carnivore.
- ☐ It was probably a herbivore.

_____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

SCIENCE UNIT REVIEW

Fossils & Geologic Eras

Name: _____ **Class:** _____ **Date:** _____

6 QUESTION 6 – GEOLOGIC ERAS

Match the Era to its correct description.

1. Paleozoic Era ☐ a.Age of Dinosaurs
2. Mesozoic Era ☐ b.Age of Fish and Trilobites
3. Cenozoic Era ☐ c.Age of Mammals

Write the correct letter next to each era.



Mesozoic Era 252–66 million years ago

Paleozoic Era 541–252 million years ago

Cenozoic Era 66 million years ago – present

7 QUESTION 7 – FOSSIL FORMATION

Put the steps in the correct order.

Write numbers 1–5 to show how a fossil forms.

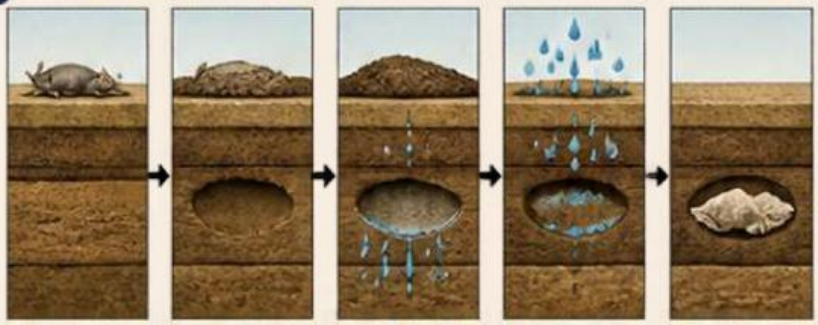
___ Minerals harden to form a cast. Over time, the cast becomes a rocky fossil.

___ The body of the dead mouse is covered with soil.

___ A mouse dies.

___ Water flows through the soil and dissolves the body, leaving an empty space called a mold.

___ Minerals in water move into the space that once held the mouse's body.



A. mouse dies.

The body of the dead mouse is covered with soil.

Water flows through the soil and dissolves the body, leaving an empty space called a mold.

Minerals in water move into the space that once held the mouse's body.

Minerals harden to form a cast. Over time, the cast becomes a rocky fossil.

8 QUESTION 8 – TYPES OF FOSSILS

Match each fossil picture to the correct type.

a.Plant fossil b.Trace fossil c.Mold fossil d.Animal fossil

Write the correct letter on each blank.

1. ___ 

2. ___ 

3. ___ 

4. ___ 

LIVEWORKSHEETS

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9 GEOLOGIC ERA CHALLENGE





Which era is known as the "Age of Fish and Trilobites"?

A. Paleozoic Era

B. Mesozoic Era

C. Cenozoic Era

10 FOSSIL FORMATION: MISSING STEP

Lookat the fossil formation sequence.



Living ammonite → Death and decay → Bural → Layers build up → _____ →

What is the missing step?

A. The ammonite comes back to life.

B. Minerals seep into the mold and harden to form a cast.

C. The soil disappears immediately.

Science Reminder



Paleozoic Era → Age of Fish and Trilobites

Mesozoic Era → Age of Dinosaurs

Cenozoic Era → Age of Mammals

LIVEWORKSHEETS