

Unit 1: Fossil Record

1. Using the principle of superposition, determine which rock layers are the oldest, and which rock layers are the youngest. Put the answer at the arrow

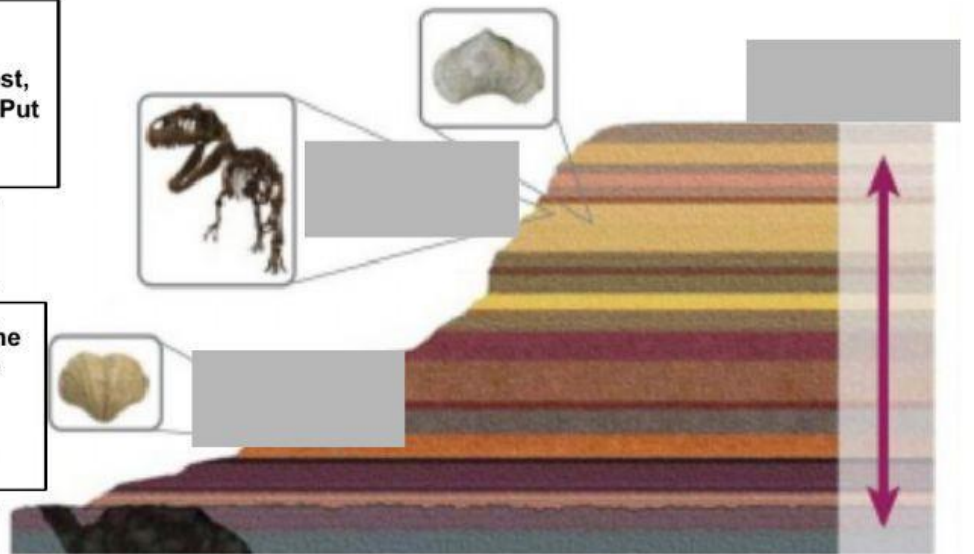
Oldest

Youngest

2. Imagine you discovered the fossils in the rock layers. What do you notice about the complexity of the fossils in the rocks? Where are the more simple and the more complex fossils located?

Complex fossils in younger layers

Simple fossils in old and young layers



Note: Fossils are not to scale.

The Fossil Record

Name and Class: _____

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Study the image. Notice the fossil trilobites in the rock layers at the bottom of the sequence. Label each sequence to show when fossils appeared or disappeared in the fossil record.

Disappearance of dinosaurs

Appearance of mammals
and dinosaurs

Disappearance of trilobites

