

# Geography

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## Hunt for fossils

Hunting for fossils is a great hobby. Provided you choose the right site, fossils are surprisingly easy to find. To find a good site in your area, check the Internet or contact a local museum. The best sites are often places where sedimentary rocks are eroding rapidly, such as beaches, cliffs, and quarries. These sites can be dangerous, so be sure to follow the safety precautions on pages 8–9.

What is the best places to find fossils?

## VISITING MUSEUMS

A good way to find out about the fossils in your area is to visit a natural history museum. Large museums don't just have dinosaur skeletons – they also have dozens of small fossils of the kind you're likely to find on beaches or in quarries. Museum exhibits may show you what the animals used to look like, how they lived, and the kind of environment they inhabited. Museum staff may help you identify your fossils and will tell you if they're valuable.



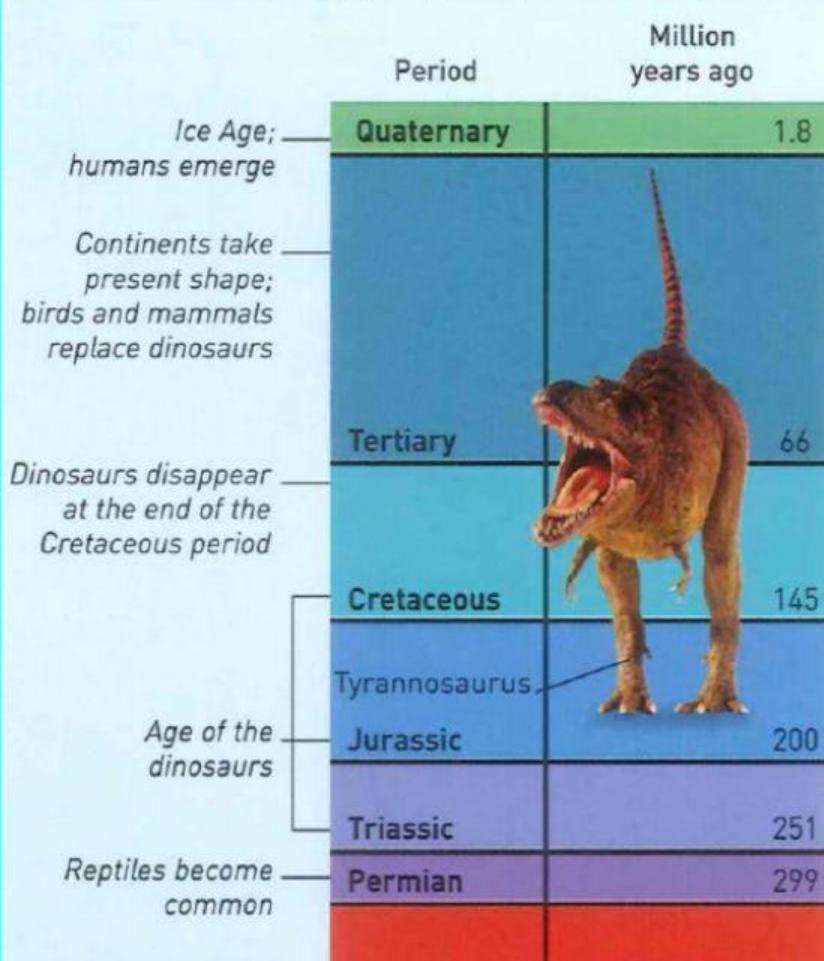
*Tyrannosaurus rex*  
reconstructed from  
fossilized bones

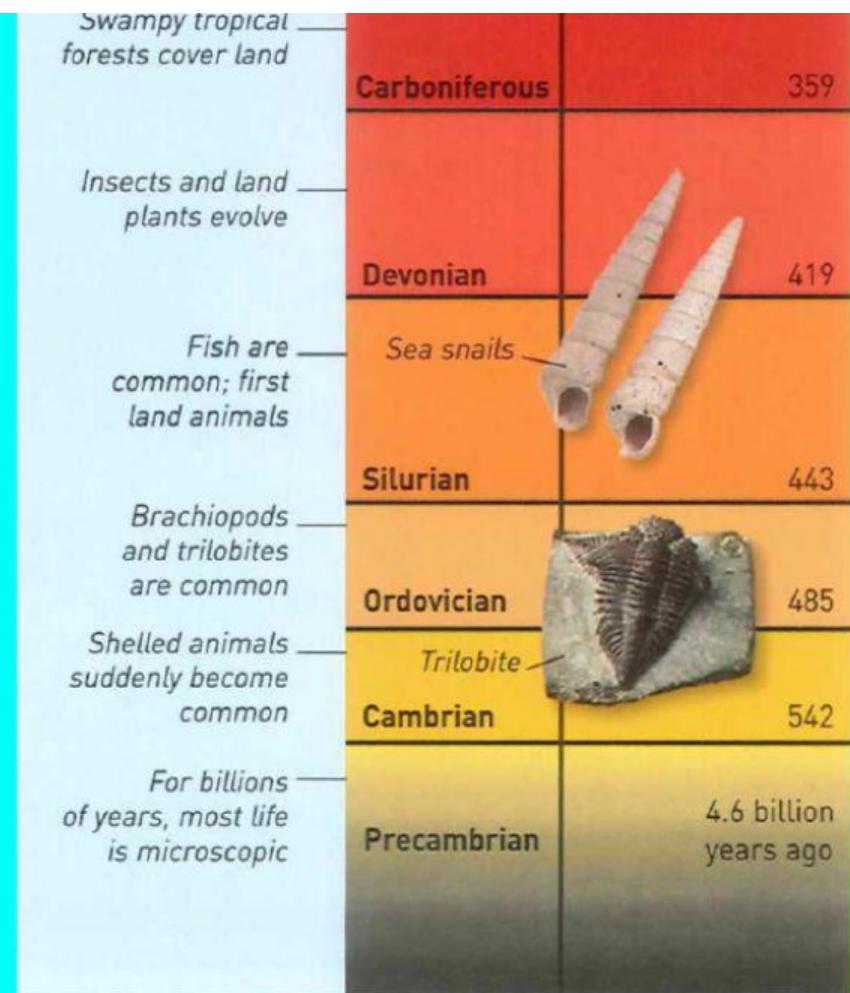
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## Geological timescale

Sedimentary rocks are laid down in strata (layers), with younger strata on top of older ones. By studying sedimentary rocks over the world, geologists have identified a sequence of major strata, each containing a distinctive group of fossils. The names of these strata correspond to major periods in Earth's history. Together they form what scientists call the geological column.

Strata is another word for \_\_\_\_\_. The \_\_\_\_\_ strata is on top of the \_\_\_\_\_ ones.





In your own words - tell me what you remember:

Click here when you are done

