

Lesson 7

Fossils

Unscramble the letters to find the answer to each question.

1. What is the study of fossils called?

G E L L O N O P A Y T O

2. What are plant or animal remains that have been changed to rock?

S I L F O S S

3. What type of fossil is made when an animal leaves tracks in soft mud?

D O L M

4. When a footprint fills up with sediment and the sediment hardens, what is made?

A C T S

5. What do you call wood that has absorbed mineral-rich water and has changed to stone?

T E R P E I F I D

6. Which element makes a print on a rock after the other materials in the plant decompose?

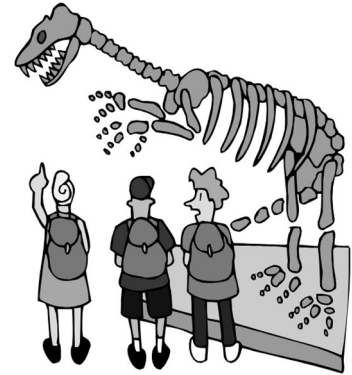
N O B R A C

7. Insects can get stuck in this sticky substance and preserved.

B R A M E

8. The lowest level of rock where there are no fossils of complex plants or animals.

C R A I N E B R A M P



Dinosaurs in Texas?

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has a fun resource about dinosaurs in Texas. There are coloring pages, lots of interesting facts, and even a mystery you can help solve. Go to the Handouts page on my website to download a copy of the booklet.

Paleontology and Geology



Geologists compare the types of fossils found in one layer of rock to the fossils found in another layer. This gives them an idea of which layer of rock is the oldest. It also gives us insight as to how the layers of rock were formed. Read pp. 391 – 402 and answer the questions below to learn more.

1. Ninety-five percent of all fossils are _____.
2. Fossils are most frequently found in which types of rock?
3. What is a “missing link”?
4. In the 1800s, geologists invented a geologic timetable of rocks. It is divided into four main eras. List the four eras from oldest to newest.
5. According to most creationists, about how old are fossils and the rocks they are in?
6. What is a polystrate fossil?
7. Were polystrate fossils buried with sediment slowly or quickly?
8. How long have people been using fossil fuels?
9. What is coal formed from?
10. List the three types of coal.
11. How long does it take to make coal?
12. What is petroleum oil formed from?
13. Where is natural gas found?
14. Think for yourself: Petroleum oil is used to make gasoline. Some people believe that we could use up all of the earth’s oil reserves by making gasoline. What alternatives could be used to reduce the amount of gasoline we use?

