

Name _____ Date _____

Vocabulary

Write the word next to the description it matches.

extinct	fossil
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1. _____ the remains or mark of a living thing from long ago
2. _____ plants or animals that are no longer living on Earth

Explain

Answer the questions on the lines below.

3. What is one type of fossil?

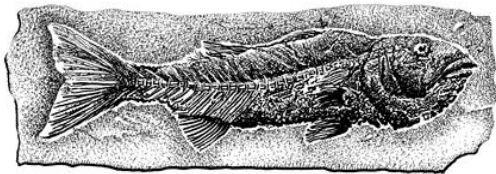
4. What do fossils tell us about plants and animals?

Apply Concept

5. Look at the picture. Explain two ways these animals might leave fossils for scientists to find today.



6. What might a paleontologist conclude if she found a trilobite fossil in the desert?
- Trilobites lived in desert environments at one time.
 - The desert was covered by water in the past.
 - Earth's environments do not change over time.
 - There must be trilobites living in the area.
7. Scientists use rock layers to determine the relative age of fossils. The oldest fossils are found in
- rock layers nearest the surface.
 - rock layers inside the caves.
 - layers of limestone rock.
 - the deepest rock layers.
8. Anthony has mold fossils of a fish and a plant. He draws a model of each.



Anthony has been told that the two fossils were found in different layers of rock. The fish fossil was found closer to the surface of the Earth than the plant fossil. Which statement most likely compares the fish and plant fossils correctly?

- The fish fossil is older than the plant fossil.
- The plant fossil is older than the fish fossil.
- When they were alive, the plant was larger than the fish.
- None of the other answer choice.