Name: Date: Score: / 8

Fossil Evidence: Learn and Practice

What the fossil record says about life

Read each question. Circle the best answer.

💡 The Fossil Record

- Fossils are the preserved remains or traces of ancient life.
- Deeper rock layers are usually older than the layers above them.
- The fossil record shows that life has changed over time and many species are now extinct.
- simple fossils deep down, complex ones higher up: life changed over time

1 Why are fossils useful to scientists?

A. They predict tomorrow's weather

B. They make plants grow

C. They show what ancient life was like

D. They are made of gold

2 🦣 What does extinct mean?

A. It lives only underwater B. It just hatched

C. No members of the species are alive

D. The species is very large

3 Simpler life forms appear in older layers and more complex forms in younger ones. What does this show?

A. Life became more varied over time

B. Complex life came first C. Fossils move upward

D. The layers got mixed up

4 ⛰️ Fossils of sea creatures are found high on a mountain. What does this suggest?

A. Fish lived in the clouds B. Birds dropped the fish

C. The area was once under the sea

D. Fish once climbed mountains

5 In undisturbed rock layers, which layers are usually the oldest?

A. The bottom layers B. All are the same age

C. The top layers D. The middle layers

6 What is the fossil record?

A. A rock collection at home

B. A song about dinosaurs

C. All known fossils, ordered by age

D. A list of living animals

7 🦶 Which of these is a trace fossil?

A. A dinosaur footprint B. A fresh leaf

C. A modern shell D. A living frog

8 🪶 Archaeopteryx had feathers like a bird but teeth and a bony tail like a reptile. Why is it important?

A. It is still alive today B. It proves birds came first

C. It was the first fish D. It links reptiles and birds

ANSWER KEY

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