

Chapter 12

Text Pages 326–333

STUDY GUIDE

● Fossils

Match the terms in Column I with their descriptions in Column II. Write the letter of the correct phrase in the blank at the left.

Column I

- _____ 1. fossil
- _____ 2. cast
- _____ 3. mold
- _____ 4. index fossil
- _____ 5. carbonaceous film
- _____ 6. petrified remain

Column II

- a. Fossil from a species that existed on Earth for a short period of time
- b. Fossil made from a thin film of carbon atoms and molecules
- c. Remain, imprint, or trace of a once-living organism
- d. Hard and rocklike fossil
- e. Cavity left in rock by a decayed organism
- f. Produced when a cavity is filled in with solid matter

Circle the word in the blank that makes the statement correct.

- 7. (Impressions, Fossils) are preserved remains or traces of life-forms.
- 8. Organisms have a better chance of being preserved if they have (hard, soft) parts.
- 9. A hard, rocklike fossil, called a (petrified, trace) fossil develops when minerals fill spaces left when the original substance dissolves.
- 10. A carbonaceous (decay, film) fossil is made when pressure and heat force out gases and liquids, leaving a thin residue of the organism.
- 11. A (mold, cast) is made when sediments fill in a cavity and harden.
- 12. (Original, Carbon) remains have been preserved in frozen ground and in amber.
- 13. Preserved tracks and other evidence of animal activity are called (index, trace) fossils.
- 14. Fossils of life-forms that existed on Earth for a short period of time and were widespread geographically are called (index, trace) fossils.
- 15. Fossils show that the (environment, elevation) of Antarctica has changed greatly.

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REINFORCEMENT

● Fossils

Write the word “no” in front of statements that do not describe a fossil. Write “fossil” if the statement describes a fossil. After each fossil description, name the type described.

- _____ 1. Dinosaur tracks in rocks _____
- _____ 2. Bird tracks in snow _____
- _____ 3. Dinosaur leg bone containing quartz instead of calcium _____
- _____ 4. Insect in amber from a pine tree _____
- _____ 5. Oil formed from sea animals of long ago _____
- _____ 6. Rocklike wood from a tree that lived millions of years ago _____
- _____ 7. Sandstone showing ripple marks from water _____
- _____ 8. Living pine tree more than 4000 years old _____
- _____ 9. Thin cavity in a rock showing where a shell had decayed _____
- _____ 10. Shell-shaped mineral found in rock cavity _____
- _____ 11. Flesh, fur, and bones of a woolly mammoth preserved in frozen ground _____
- _____ 12. Arrowhead made thousands of years ago _____
- _____ 13. Burrows of worms that lived millions of years ago _____
- _____ 14. Rocklike parts of a species of fish that lived a short time in several parts of the world _____
- _____ 15. Thin layer of carbon from the remains of a plant that lived thousands of years ago _____

Answer the following questions on the lines provided.

16. What three kinds of information can geologists gather from a study of fossils? _____

17. What must happen to a dead organism if a fossil is to form? _____

18. What do you know about a rock layer found on a mountain if you find a seashell fossil in the layer? _____
