

Name: _____

Content Check

Read and answer the questions below.

1. How are fossils formed?

2. How do we know the time period from when an organism lived on Earth?

3. How does the fossil record show us how organisms evolved?

Content Check

Teacher Key

1. How are fossils formed?

Fossils are formed when an animal dies and the remains are covered in mud or sediment. The sediment hardens and forms a layer of solid rock, preserving the bones inside.

2. How do we know the time period from when an organism lived on Earth?

Scientists can determine which geological time period the fossil was formed based on the type of rock the fossil was made of or by the fossil's position in relationship to other layers of Earth.

3. How does the fossil record show us how organisms evolved?

We can put fossils in chronological order based on the rock layers, and compare the fossils from the different time periods to see how organisms changed over time.