

Name _____

How Do Fossils Help Scientists Build the Timeline of Life on Earth?

Short Answer Key

1. A plant or animal gets buried quickly in mud or sand, and over time, its hard parts turn into rock or leave imprints.
2. It might mean the animal was a meat-eater.
3. Because older layers are deeper, and newer ones are closer to the top.
4. It means the order in which living things appeared and lived over time.
5. By comparing old fossils to new ones, we can see how animals evolved.

