

Name _____

Volcanoes and Radiometric Dating

Short Answer Key

1. It releases ash and lava that can quickly cover and protect remains.
2. Potassium-40 breaks down at a known rate, helping scientists tell how old rocks are.
3. By dating the ash layers above and below the fossil.
4. Because fossils don't always contain materials that can be tested directly.
5. It marks a moment in time, helping date the layers and anything between them.

