

Name _____

How Do Scientists Compare Fossils To Figure Out Which Are Older?

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Because not all fossils are found in the same kind of rocks or layers, and some places don't have index fossils.
2. It would be exciting to figure out how old something is and where it fits in the story of life.
3. It shows what creatures lived at the same time and how Earth's surface changed over time.
4. I would record where I found it, check the rock layers, and see if it was near an index fossil or volcanic rock for dating.

