

Name _____

How Scientists Measure Earth's Past Climate Thousands of Years Ago

Short Answer Key

1. Ice cores are long cylinders of ice that contain air bubbles from the past, showing how much carbon dioxide was in the air.
2. Scientists look at how thick or thin the rings are to tell if a year was wet, dry, warm, or cold.
3. It usually means the weather was good—warm and rainy.
4. Because those layers can hold pollen or dust that shows the climate at that time.
5. Fossils of animals or plants that lived in warm or cold climates help scientists know what the weather was like.

