

Study Guide test 2 quarter 2

Fossils are found in sedimentary rock

Footprints and trails are examples of trace fossils

Generally only the hard parts of organisms become fossils

The law of superposition helps geologists with relative dating

Rock layers are always older than the faults that cut across them

On the geologic time scale The Mesozoic Era is made up of the Triassic, Jurassic, and Cretaceous

The era before the Mesozoic era is the Paleozoic Era

Life on Earth did appear in Precambrian times.

A fossil is the preserved remains or traces of an organism

Most fossils form when living things die and their remains are buried by sediments

Paleontologists have found that older rock contains simple organisms

An organism is extinct when it does not exist on Earth any longer

Trace fossils give us clues about an organism's activities

The relative age of rock is its age compared to the age of other rocks.

The Law of Superposition states that each horizontal rock layer is older than the layer above it and younger than the layer below it

An unconformity is a place where an old eroded rock surface comes in contact with a new rock layer.

Radioactive or radiometric dating allows geologists to determine the absolute ages of rocks.

Scientists use the geologic time scale instead of years or centuries because the time span in Earth's history is so great

The geologic time scale is a record of life forms and geologic events that have occurred in Earth's history

Paleozoic, Mesozoic, and Cenozoic are Eras of time in the geologic time scale

The Triassic, Jurassic and Cretaceous are periods of time in the geologic time scale

Precambrian time which makes up 4 billion of Earth's 4.5 billion years began with Earth forming from a mass of dust and gas

Pangaea formed about 250 million years ago

The fall line is the border between the Piedmont and Coastal plain

Coal, oil, and natural gas are found in the Appalachian plateau

The geologic province with caves and sinkholes is the valley and ridge

The geologic province with rocks over 1 billion years old is the Blue Ridge