

Bill Nye Fossils

1. The word fossil comes from an old _____ word for _____.
2. What is the evidence that Earth has changed a lot?
3. True or False, most animals and plants that die become fossils. _____
4. A _____ is a fossil formed when an organism is pressed into clay or soft earth.
5. When another substance fills in a mold and hardens, it forms a _____.
6. Where are the La Brea Tar Pits located?
7. "The asphalt in the La Brea Tar pits preserves the bones of many prehistoric animals." In this sentence, the word "preserves" means _____
_____.
8. When collecting fossils, the students need to record which _____ the fossil was found in and where it was in relationship to other _____.
9. Trees can become petrified when the pores, or holes inside become filled with _____.
10. After a dead organism is covered in soil, mud, ash or amber, it takes _____ or _____ of years to become a fossil.
11. Fossils are generally found in _____ rock, which is laid down in _____.
12. True or False: If we know the age of rock and fossils in a particular rock layer in Africa, we know that fossils in that rock layer in Europe are about the same age.
13. Describe how paleontologists excavate fossils:
14. What special trait does the archaeopteryx have? Why is this important?
15. List 3 traits scientists can know about an organism based on a complete fossil.

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16. What are 2 traits that scientists probably can't know for sure about a fossil organism.

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