

Unearthing Ancient Life: Palaeontology Basics

Palaeontology · Answer Key · 8 Questions

1. What is the scientific study of ancient life, primarily through the examination of fossils, called?

- A) Archaeology
- B) Geology
- C) Palaeontology**
- D) Anthropology

2. What are the preserved remains or traces of organisms from a past geological age called?

- A) Artifacts
- B) Minerals
- C) Sediments
- D) Fossils**

3. Which type of rock is most likely to contain fossils, as it forms from layers of accumulated material?

- A) Igneous rock
- B) Metamorphic rock
- C) Sedimentary rock**
- D) Volcanic rock

4. During which geological era did dinosaurs predominantly live, often referred to as 'The Age of Reptiles'?

- A) Cenozoic Era
- B) Paleozoic Era
- C) Mesozoic Era**
- D) Precambrian Era

5. Which large predatory dinosaur is famously known for its powerful jaws and small arms?

- A) Triceratops
- B) Stegosaurus
- C) Tyrannosaurus Rex**
- D) Brachiosaurus

6. What do fossilized footprints, burrows, and tooth marks represent, providing evidence of ancient organism activity rather than the organism itself?

- A) Body fossils
- B) Index fossils
- C) Trace fossils**
- D) Microfossils

7. What is the primary role of a palaeontologist?

- A) Study human history
- B) Explore space
- C) Discover and study fossils**
- D) Design buildings

8. What major event is widely believed to have caused the extinction of most dinosaurs approximately 66 million years ago?

- A) A massive volcanic eruption
- B) A global ice age
- C) An asteroid impact**
- D) A super-tsunami