

ZUHL COLLECTION: ALUMNI BUILDING

Name _____

PRECAMBRIAN

1. Precambrian - _____ to _____ Billion years ago
How long did it last? _____
2. What kinds of living things are found as fossils in Precambrian rocks?

PALEOZOIC - _____ to _____ Million years ago
How long did it last? _____

3. What animal had legs and crawled around on the sea floor? How many different kinds (species) do you see here?
4. Find one animal that moved around on the sea floor but had no legs. What is it?
5. Name two animals that lived on the sea floor but didn't move.
6. Find a Paleozoic animal that looks something like a flower. What is it?
Does its kind exist today? Yes No
7. When did land plants first appear?

MESOZOIC - _____ to _____ Million years ago
How long did it last? _____

8. Ammonites are cephalopods (relatives of the octopus and squid) that first appeared in the Mesozoic. Ammonites constructed shells with chambers and lived in the outermost chamber. How many different ammonites do you see here? What is the range of sizes?
9. Name 2 other Mesozoic marine organisms. Is either of these similar to Paleozoic species?
10. When did flowering plants first appear? Which came first - plants with flowers or plants without flowers?
11. Find a reptile that lived and swam in the ocean. What is it?

12. Find a reptile that lived on the land. What is it?

13. The Jurassic is the middle period of the Mesozoic Era. What fossilized Jurassic insects do you see? Are they generally larger, smaller, or about the same size as similar insects today?

CENOZOIC - _____ to _____ Million years ago
How long has it lasted? _____

14. What kinds of Pliocene and Pleistocene animals lived in the area occupied by modern-day southern New Mexico?
15. How old is the oldest bat?
16. What kind of reptile crawled around in the Oligocene in what is now South Dakota? Without touching it, estimate the size of the biggest shell of one of these. (Hint: the biggest one is not in the display case.)
17. Other than the tree trunk, what other parts of a tree may be fossilized? (Hint: look around in the cases.)

MINERALS

18. What color is rhodocrosite? What is it (give its chemical formula in words)?
19. Amethyst and citrine are varieties of the mineral quartz. What colors are they?
Amethyst _____ citrine _____
What other colors of quartz can you find? _____
What shape are quartz crystals? What is quartz?
20. What shape are pyrite crystals? What is pyrite?