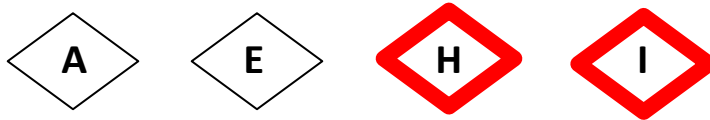


Name(s): _____

Answer the questions. Back up your claims with evidence from your observations of the cliff and fossils.

1. Color in 2 fossils that were alive at around the same time.



How do you know?

They were probably alive around the same time because they are in the same layer of material and they are at a similar depth.

2. Which layer is the oldest? Circle one.



How do you know?

Layer 3 is the oldest because it is the bottom layer, which is the first layer that formed. Then the other layers got stacked on top of it.

3. Which layer formed most recently? Circle one.

1

2

3

How do you know?

Layer 1 is the most recent because it is the top layer, so it is made out of material that piled up after Layer 3 and Layer 2 were already there.

4. Which fossils are the oldest? Circle one group.

A B C

D E F

G H I

How do you know?

These fossils are the oldest because they are part of Layer 3, which is the oldest layer. In other words, we know they are the oldest because they are buried the deepest of all the exposed layers.

5. Color in the fossils that probably lived in water.



How do you know?

The GHI fossils in Layer 3 probably lived in water because fossils in that layer have fins and tails for swimming. Some also have shells. Shells, fins, and tails are common features of sea creatures today. In addition, animals in Layer 3 don't have legs, which we would expect if they lived on land.

6. Color in the fossils that probably lived on land.



How do you know?

Fossils A, B, C, D, E, and F probably lived on land because animals in Layer 1 and Layer 2 have legs for walking on land. Fossil C resembles a modern land animal—a bull. Fossil F resembles a familiar dinosaur, Triceratops, which lived on land.