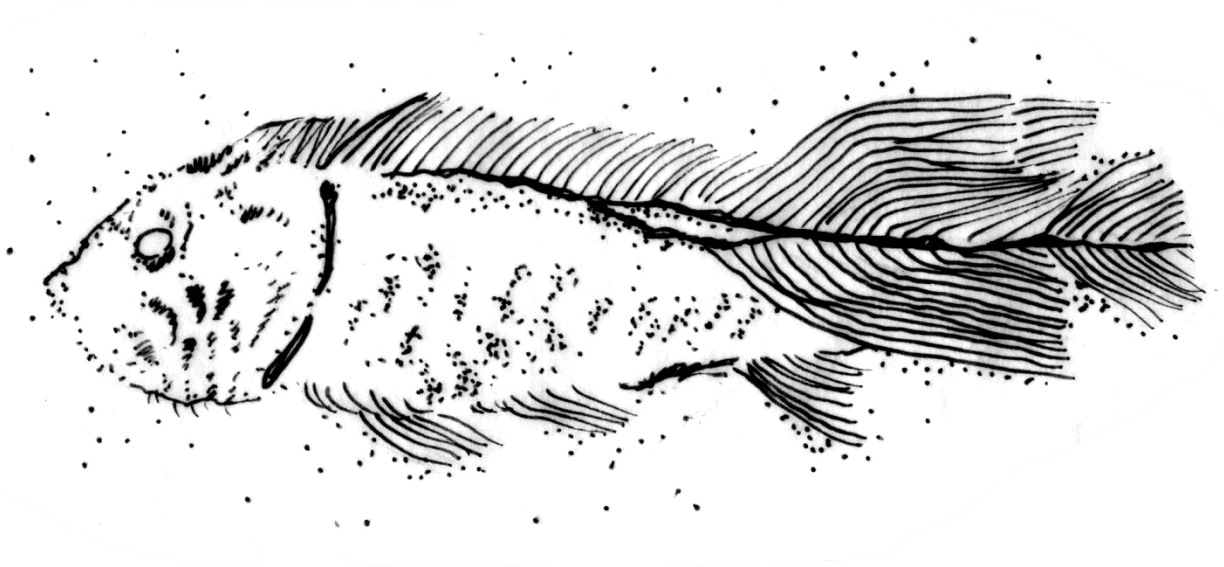




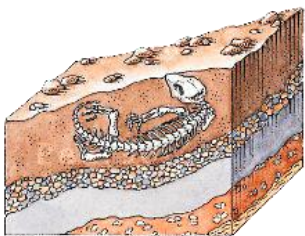
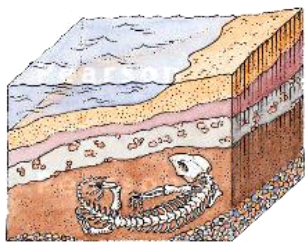
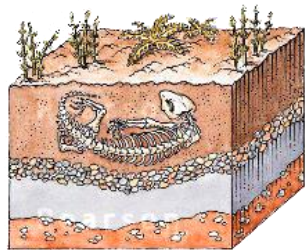
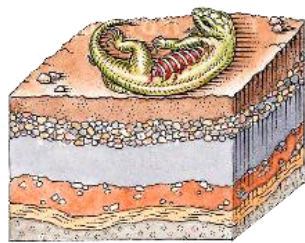
# What is a fossil?

- A fossil is the preserved remains or traces of a living thing from long ago.



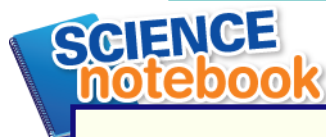
**QOD. Define** Define *fossil* in your own words.

## How do fossils form?



Formation of a fossil

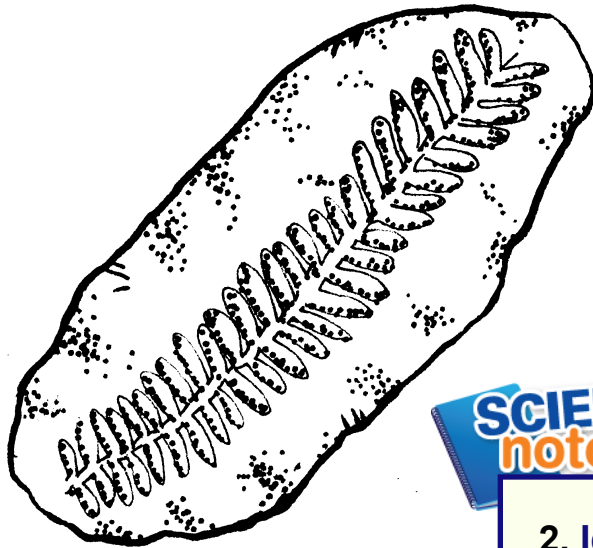
- Fossils often form when a living thing dies and is buried by sediment. The sediment slowly hardens into sedimentary rock. This type of fossil includes:
  - molds and casts
  - petrified fossils
  - carbon films
  - trace fossils
- Fossils can also form when the remains of a living thing are preserved in ice, tar, or amber.
  - [Fossil Animation](#)



1. **Observe** Make a detailed drawing of a fossil.



# What evidence do fossils provide about past living organisms?



Plant Fossil

- Fossils give evidence of:
  - what past living organisms looked like
  - what animals of the past ate and what ate them, how they cared for their young, and how they moved around



**2. Identify Evidence** Identify the evidence the plant fossil shown here provides about the plant from which it formed. What does the fossil not tell you about the plant?

*(contd.)*



- The fossil record provides evidence about the history of life.
- The fossil record shows that different types of living things have changed over time.
  - Fossils occur in a particular order. Older rocks contain fossils of simpler organisms. Younger rocks contain fossils of more complex organisms.
  - Some of these organisms are **extinct**. They can no longer be found alive anywhere on Earth.



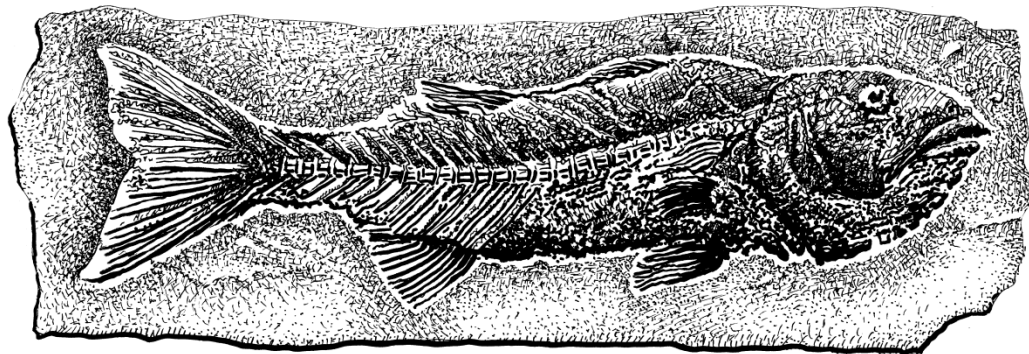
3. **Compare and Contrast** How is evidence from the fossil record different from evidence from a single fossil?



# What evidence do fossils provide about past environments?

- Fossils can tell us whether an area was under water or was dry land and what the climate was like in that area.
- Fossils also tell us about the animals and plants in an area and whether the land was forest, grassland, swamp, or desert.

Fish Fossil



**4. Identify Evidence** Identify what you think the environment was like where this fish lived. What evidence supports this idea?