

Chapter

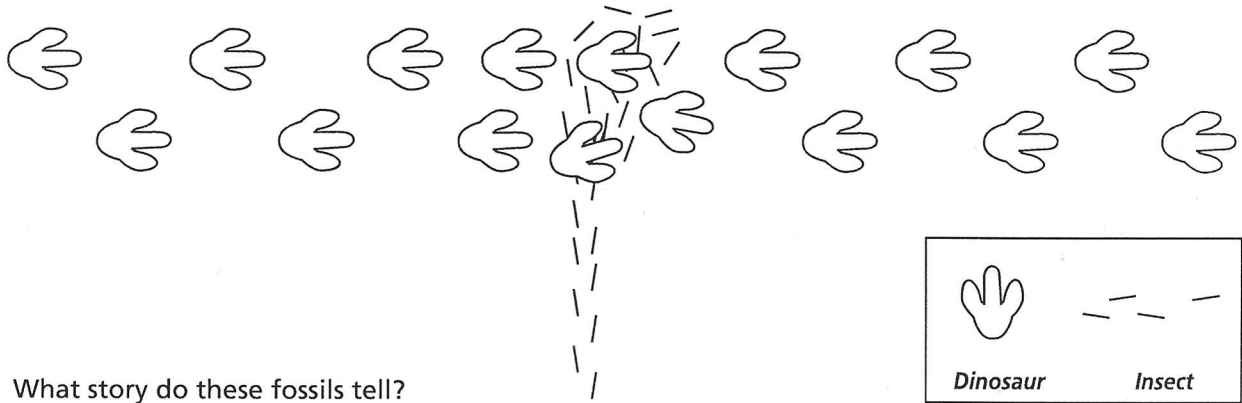
14

The History of Life

Content Mastery

Get the Big Picture

Study the picture and read the paragraph in the box. Then answer the questions that follow.



What story do these fossils tell?

Scientists study fossils to learn more about living things that lived long ago. Leaf prints, hardened shells, dinosaur tracks, and bones are examples of fossils. Fossils tell biologists how plants and animals looked millions of years ago. Fossils also help scientists recreate the history of life on Earth.

1. Why are fossils important to biologists?

2. List two examples of fossils.

3. Look at the picture. What story does it tell?

4. Scientists use fossils to recreate the history of life. When future scientists find fossils from our time on Earth, what do you think they will learn about present-day life?

Chapter 14

The History of Life, *continued*

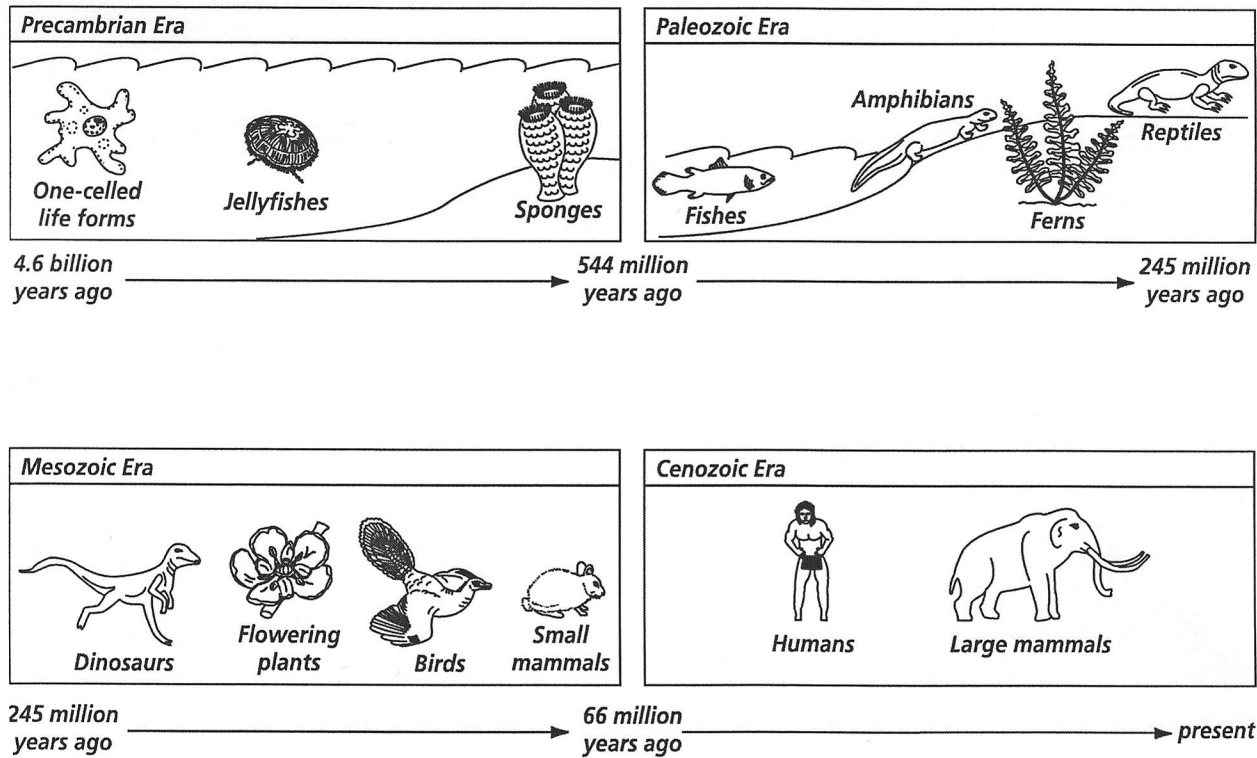
Content Mastery

Section 14.1 The Record of Life

Section 14.2 The Origin of Life

Study the Diagram

Study the diagram. Then complete the sentences below with the correct era.

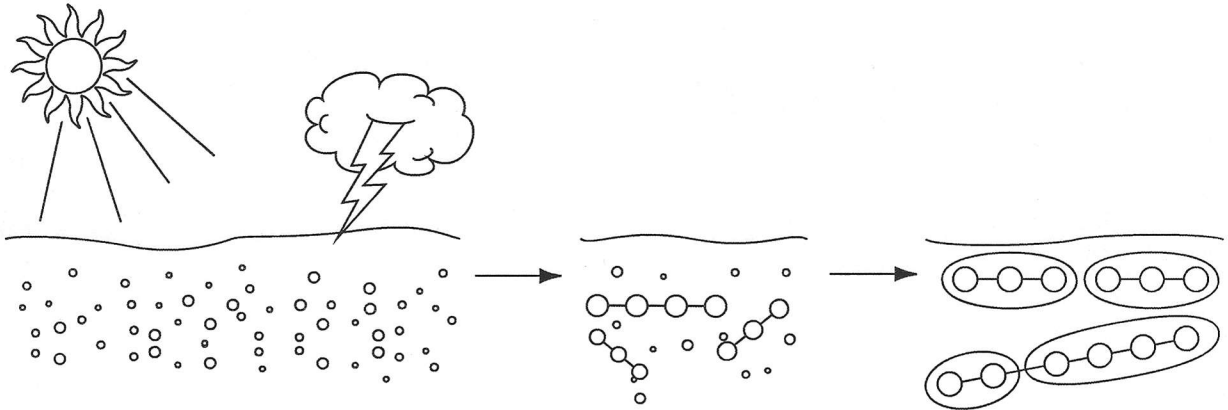


1. Ferns and reptiles appeared in the _____ era.
2. Humans and other large mammals appeared in the _____ era.
3. Dinosaurs, birds, and flowering plants appeared in the _____ era.
4. The earliest life forms appeared in the _____ era.

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Chapter
14
The History of Life, *continued*
Content Mastery

Study the diagram below. Then answer the questions that follow.



Energy from the sun and lightning strikes molecules in the sea.

Molecules combine to form simple organic molecules.

Larger molecules continue to form, making simple amino acids.

Amino acids are the building blocks of life. Early protocells were probably made of groups of amino acids.

5. Where did the energy to make organic molecules come from?

6. What type of larger organic molecules formed? Why are these larger molecules important?

7. What do scientists believe was formed from groups of amino acids?

Review the Vocabulary

archaebacteria (ar kee bac TIHR ee uh)

plate tectonics

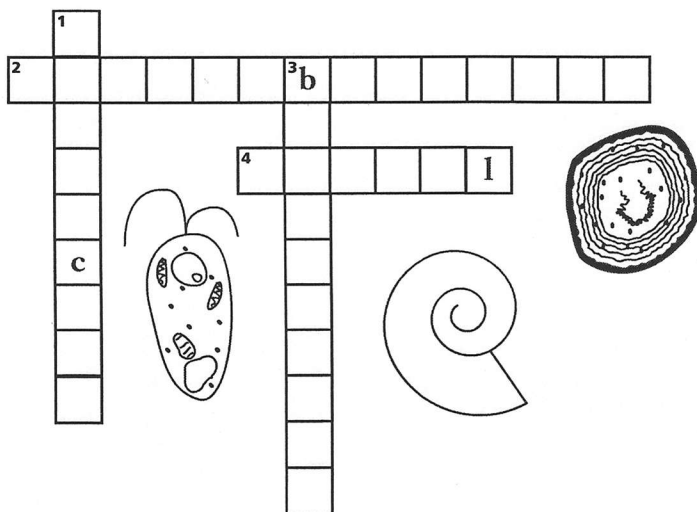
biogenesis (bi oh JEN uh sus)

protocell

fossil

spontaneous generation

The Chapter 14 vocabulary words are listed above. Review the definitions of these words. Then fill in the puzzle. You will not use all the words for the puzzle.



Across

- unicellular life forms that live with little sunlight or oxygen
- evidence of an organism that lived long ago

Down

- structure that carries out some life activities such as growth or division
- idea that living things come only from other living things

Fill in each blank with the correct vocabulary word.

- The idea that life can come from something nonliving is called _____.
- The theory of _____ explains how continents move.