

Stratigraphy

And the Fossil Record

Stratigraphy

- Fossils can be dated relative to one another by noting their positions in layers of rocks, known as strata.
- By studying and comparing strata from all over the world, we can date rocks relative to one another.

Absolute v.s. Relative

- Absolute Time – a finite date found usually by radiometric or radiocarbon dating.
- Relative Time- finding a time period by comparing the layers of rock.

The Law of Superposition

- Oldest sedimentary rock layers are at the bottom on and newer sedimentary rock layers are at the top.
- fossils found in lower strata were generally deposited earlier and are older

Your Task

- For at least 10 Fossils
 - Make 4 observations
 - Decide what type of animal you think it is.
 - Decide what type of environment you think it would live in.
 - Explain how you came to these conclusions.
- For one Fossil make a drawing of what you think it would have looked like when it was alive.