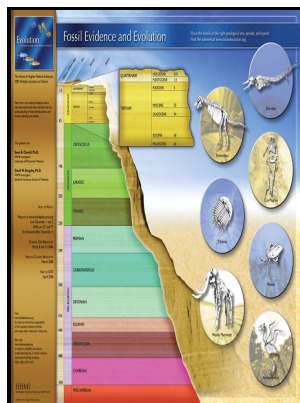


Geological and fossil evidence

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Fossils Through Geologic Time

As such it provides invaluable evidence for common descent. By the way, and as a reflection on the article description of life and geology coevolving, the integrated evidence credibility range for evolution of LUCA is ~50 Myrs right after the Moon forming impact.

Clues in Fossils Panel

These unused structures without function are called vestigial structures.

Fossils

Common Cenozoic fossils include cat-like carnivores and early horses, as well as ice age fossils like woolly mammoths. There are gaps in the fossil record and some unusual occurrences, such as what is commonly called the Cambrian explosion, but the overall picture created by the fossil record is one of consistent, incremental development. Students sort through the sediment and group the different types of fossils they find.

Clues in Fossils Panel

The assignment of ages of rocks in thousands, millions, and billions of years was made possible by the discovery of radioactivity. Flowering Plants
Flowering plants or angiosperms were became widespread in the Cenozoic Era. Remember that paleo means ancient; so a paleontologist studies ancient forms of life.

Fossils

. The study of fossils and the rocks that contain them occurs both out of doors and in the laboratory.

Fossils, Rocks, and Time

Later species showed gains in size, such as those of *Hipparion*, which existed from about 23 to 2 million years ago.

How Fossil Evidence Supports Evolution

The field work can take place anywhere in the world. A substantial hurdle is the difficulty of working out fossil ages. During the late 1980s and 1990s, outstanding examples of macroevolution were discovered.

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