

Name _____ Date _____

Instructions: Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

1. What is the main idea of *Discovering Dinosaurs*?
 - Ⓐ The oldest dinosaur lived around 230 million years ago.
 - Ⓑ Scientists can estimate the age of dinosaur fossils.
 - Ⓒ Dinosaurs disappeared 65 million years ago.
 - Ⓓ Studying fossils helps scientists understand more about dinosaurs.
2. How do footprints help scientists better understand dinosaurs?
 - Ⓐ They show how many dinosaurs walked the planet.
 - Ⓑ They show how fast or slow a dinosaur moved.
 - Ⓒ They show how many dinosaurs could fly.
 - Ⓓ They show how the dinosaurs moved when it got cold.
3. How did the flat teeth of some dinosaurs help them eat food?
 - Ⓐ Flat teeth helped them grind food.
 - Ⓑ Flat teeth helped them tear through meat.
 - Ⓒ Flat teeth helped them pull the seeds out of fruit.
 - Ⓓ Flat teeth did not help dinosaurs to eat.
4. What is the author's purpose for writing *Discovering Dinosaurs*?
 - Ⓐ to inform readers about how fossils help us know more about dinosaurs
 - Ⓑ to persuade readers to visit their local museum and see the dinosaur fossils
 - Ⓒ to entertain the reader with interesting facts about different kinds of dinosaurs
 - Ⓓ to inform the reader about why and how the dinosaurs disappeared

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5. Which detail supports the idea that fossils help scientists know what Earth was like during the time of dinosaurs?
 - Ⓐ Scientists have many different ideas to explain how dinosaurs disappeared around 65 million years ago.
 - Ⓑ Older fossils are found deeper in the ground than newer fossils.
 - Ⓒ Scientists perform tests to find out the age of fossils.
 - Ⓓ Scientists have found fossils of plants, fish, insects, and other animals in the same rocks as dinosaur fossils.
6. Which of the following words means *to break down or fall apart slowly*?
 - Ⓐ extinct
 - Ⓑ analyze
 - Ⓒ decay
 - Ⓓ excavate
7. In what way were some dinosaurs similar to birds?
 - Ⓐ Some dinosaurs had colorful feathers.
 - Ⓑ Some dinosaurs had light-weight bones.
 - Ⓒ Some dinosaurs sat on a nest until their eggs hatched.
 - Ⓓ Some dinosaurs slept in trees.
8. What do scientists do after they take fossils to a museum?
 - Ⓐ study the different features of the fossils
 - Ⓑ record information about the fossils
 - Ⓒ wrap the fossils to keep them safe
 - Ⓓ carefully remove dirt from the fossils
9. A person who studies plant and animal fossils is called a _____.
 - Ⓐ dinosaur finder
 - Ⓑ museum
 - Ⓒ teacher
 - Ⓓ paleontologist

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10. Which of the following sentences states an opinion?

- Ⓐ Scientists have found many different kinds of dinosaur fossils, including bones, footprints, and teeth.
- Ⓑ Triceratops and horse skeletons look the same in some ways.
- Ⓒ Dinosaurs are the most fascinating creatures to ever walk the Earth.
- Ⓓ Sometimes scientists can fit bone fossils together to form a complete skeleton.

11. **Extended Response:** Why is it more challenging for scientists to discover older fossils?

Quick Check Answer Sheet

Discovering Dinosaurs

Main Comprehension Skill: Main Idea and Details

1. Ⓓ *Main Idea and Details*
2. Ⓑ *Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions*
3. Ⓐ *Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions*
4. Ⓐ *Author's Purpose*
5. Ⓓ *Main Idea and Details*
6. Ⓒ *Vocabulary*
7. Ⓒ *Compare and Contrast*
8. Ⓐ *Sequence Events*
9. Ⓓ *Vocabulary*
10. Ⓒ *Fact or Opinion*
11. Students should respond that older fossils are located in rocks deeper in the ground, which makes them more difficult for scientists to locate.