Rocks, Fossils, and Time

Grade 4 Science Worksheet

Name _____ Date _____

Circle the answer.

1. Which is a fossil?
   a fresh leaf on a rock
   a rock shaped like a leaf by wind
   a painting of a leaf on rock
   a leaf print pressed into rock

2. A river canyon has rock with fish fossils at the bottom and rock with dinosaur tracks higher up. What is the best conclusion?
   the canyon is older than both layers
   dinosaurs walked there before the water came
   fish and dinosaurs lived in the same layer
   water covered the area before dinosaurs walked there

3. Two students explain shell fossils on a mountain. A: "The mountain was once under the sea and rose." B: "Birds dropped the shells." Why is A's idea better?
   the shells are inside the rock layers, not on top
   shells are too light to fossilize
   birds cannot carry anything at all
   mountains have always been under water

4. A layer of rock has fossils of ice-age animals with thick fur. What can scientists infer about the past climate?
   it was very hot
   it was the same as a warm beach
   it was always rainy
   it was very cold

5. Bottom to top: shale with fish, a layer of volcanic ash, sandstone with footprints. Which order of events fits?
   lake with fish, a volcano erupted, animals walked on sand
   animals walked on sand, a volcano erupted, lake with fish
   lake with fish, animals walked on sand, a volcano erupted
   a volcano erupted, lake with fish, animals walked on sand

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Answer Key - Grade 4 Science Worksheet

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