Rocks, Fossils, and Time

Grade 4 Science Worksheet - Challenge Me

Name _____ Date _____

Circle the answer.

1. A river cuts a canyon through five rock layers. Which is youngest?

   the bottom layer the middle layer the top layer the canyon

2. Why do scientists say the top layer of undisturbed rock is the youngest?

   it is always the hardest layer

   it has the most fossils

   it is always the thickest layer

   it was the last layer to be laid down

3. A claim says, "This area was always a forest." Bottom to top: shell limestone, then shale with leaf fossils. Does the evidence support the claim?

   yes, because there are leaf fossils

   no, because leaves cannot be fossils

   no, the bottom layer shows it was once a sea

   yes, because forests make limestone

4. Layer A has fossils of a trilobite that lived 500 million years ago. Layer B has dinosaur bones from 100 million years ago. If undisturbed, which is lower?

   you cannot tell from fossils

   Layer B

   Layer A

   they are side by side

5. Ripple marks are found in an old rock layer. Ripple marks form in sand under moving water. What do they show?

   moving water once flowed over that sand

   ice once covered the sand

   a volcano once erupted there

   the sand was always dry

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Answer Key - Grade 4 Science Worksheet - Challenge Me

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