Rocks, Fossils, and Time

Grade 4 Science Worksheet

Name _____ Date _____

Circle the answer.

1. What is a fossil?
   a rock that was broken into pieces by ice
   a crystal that grows slowly inside a dark cave
   a shiny, smooth rock found at the bottom of a river
   the remains or traces of a living thing from long ago

2. Why do scientists say the top layer of undisturbed rock is the youngest?
   it is always the hardest layer
   it is always the thickest layer
   it was the last layer to be laid down
   it has the most fossils

3. A claim says, "Dinosaurs walked here." Which evidence best supports it?
   dinosaur footprints are preserved in the rock
   the area has many tall trees
   the rock is very old and hard
   large animals live here today

4. Coal forms from swamp plants buried for millions of years. Coal is found in a very cold, dry place. What does this tell scientists?
   swamp plants grow in cold deserts
   coal forms from ice
   the place was always cold and dry
   the place was once a warm swamp

5. Scientists find palm tree fossils in Canada, where palms do not grow today. What changed?
   palm trees moved by themselves
   the climate there got colder
   palms grew in snow long ago
   the soil there got wetter

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Answer Key - Grade 4 Science Worksheet

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