

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_

### Getting Into the Fossil Record Scavenger Hunt

Directions: As you navigate through *Getting Into the Fossil Record*, keep your eyes open for answers to the following questions. Hint: The questions are in order of appearance.

<http://www.ucmp.berkeley.edu/education/explorations/tours/fossil/5to8/Intro.html>

1. What is a fossil?
2. What body parts make good fossils?
3. Name two kinds of trace fossils.
4. Why is a quick burial helpful in the fossilization process?
5. Find the walnut. How did it become a fossil?
6. What happened to the mammoth?
7. Why are the mouse and the jellyfish being compared?

8. Why is it difficult for an organism living in the rainforest to become a fossil?

9. What are two reasons why many organisms never become part of the fossil record?

10. Of all the organisms alive today, what percentage do you think will eventually become fossils? Circle the best answer below.

- a. Less than 10%
- b. 20- 50 %
- c. More than 50%

11. What are two ways that geologic processes can destroy a fossil?

12. In what type of rock would you most likely find fossils? Circle the best answer below.

- a. igneous
- b. metamorphic
- c. sedimentary
- d. all of the above

13. Find the map of Montana. What are two things to keep in mind when you are looking for a fossil like *T. rex*? What do the colors and letters represent?

BONUS: You are a paleontologist at a fossil dig site in the Gobi Desert. You find a site filled with many fossilized leaves, teeth, bones, eggs and even footprints from a variety of creatures. BUT you find no trace of insects. One possible explanation is that no insects lived in the Gobi at that time. What is another possible explanation for the lack of insects?