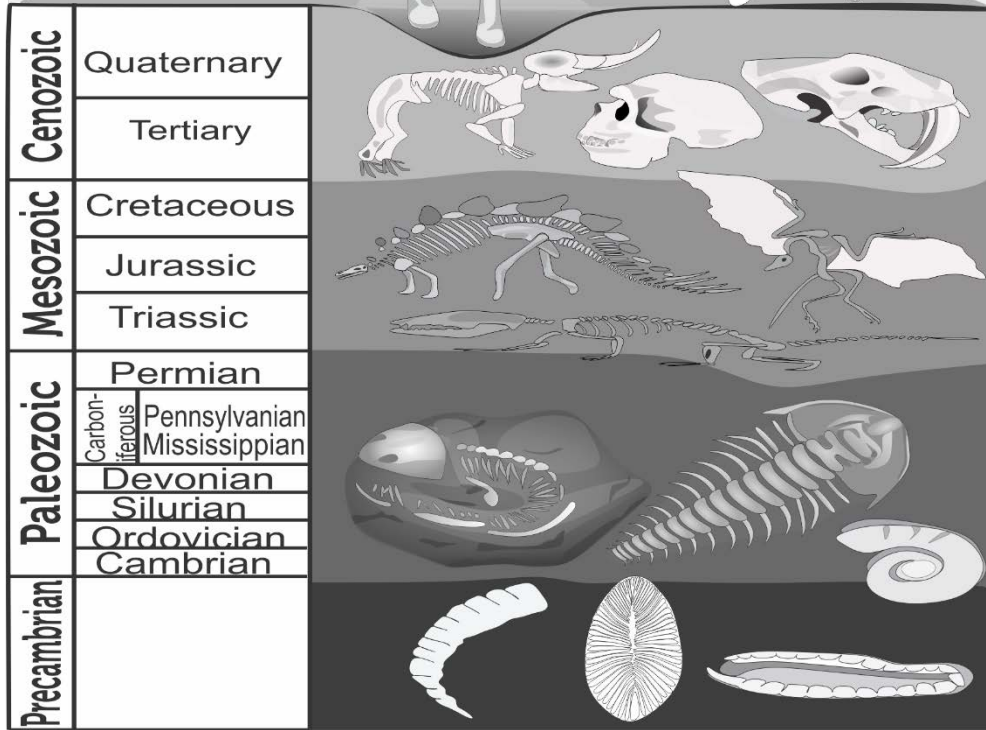


Fossil Record



There are many layers of rock in the Earth's surface. Newer layers form on top of the older layers. You can tell how old a fossil is by looking at which layer of rock it was found. The order in which fossils appear is called the fossil record.

We use the fossil record to find evidence for when organisms lived on earth. We can also learn about how species have evolved and what species are no longer on the earth.

A scientist found some shell fossils in the Paleozoic layer. What could this scientist conclude about how this area used to look?
