

SCoPE Site Lesson Plan

Title: Lesson 2—Stories in the Rocks (SC090202)

Abstract

Students examine evidence from the fossil record, beginning with the earliest observations of Smith and Hutton. They infer the potential and limitations of evidence from fossils.

Subject Area: Science

Grade Level and Course Title: Ninth Grade/Biology

Unit of Study: Taxonomy of Evolution

Benchmarks

- Gather and synthesize information about evolution from books and other sources of information (I.1.HS.4).
- Describe some general limitations of scientific knowledge about natural selection (II.1.HS.2).
- Discuss the historical development of key scientific concepts and principles related to evolution (II.1.HS.4).

Key Concept

speciation

Instructional Resources

Equipment/Manipulative

Fossils (*Hexagonaria*, brachiopods, horn corals, bryozoans and ammonites from Michigan Devonian strata recommended)
Sand or fine, dry soil

Student Resource

Maes, Alison, and Juliana Texley. *Unit 2 Lesson 2 Student Pages*. Teacher-made material. Lansing, MI: Michigan Department of Treasury, 2004.

Teacher Resource

Burgess Shale Fossil Bed. 1996. Starry Messenger Communications. 4 February 2004 <<http://www.scienceweb.org/burgess.html>>.

James Hutton: Theology and Geology. 4 February 2004 <<http://www1.umn.edu/ships/religion/hutton.htm>>.

Maes, Alison, and Juliana Texley. *Grade 9 Unit 2 Teacher Background*. Teacher-made material. Lansing, MI: Michigan Department of Treasury, 2004.