

# Fossils and the Law of Superposition

- Complete the following vocabulary definitions:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ - The trace or remains of an organism that lived long ago, most commonly preserved in sedimentary rock
2. \_\_\_\_\_ - Younger rocks lie above older rocks if the layers have not been disturbed
3. \_\_\_\_\_ - Any method of determining whether an event or object is older or younger than other events or objects
4. \_\_\_\_\_ - A fossil that is found in the rock layers of only one geologic age and is used to establish the age of the rock layers. Is found in rock layers around the world, ex Trilobites

## Questions:

### Activity #1:

1. What letter is the oldest? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What letter is the youngest? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What letter showed up the most? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Which letters only showed up once? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Which letters could be index fossils? \_\_\_\_\_
6. How did you know which was older: "M" or "X"? \_\_\_\_\_

### Activity # 2:

1. What problems did you run into when trying to arrange the fossils into the correct sequence?
2. Would this have been more difficult if you did not know which layer was the oldest to start the activity?
3. Which organism is the most complex of all the fossils and why?