Ancient Vertebrates

Fossils provide evidence of ancient life. Color or shade only those creatures or fossils you think might be fossils or pictures of ancient vertebrate animals.

Vertebrates: Animals that have backbones. Includes animals such as amphibians, birds, fish, mammals, and reptiles. People are vertebrate animals.

Worksheet to be used with the “Progression of Life” poster (1988) or “Guide to ‘Progression of Life’” booklet (1989), by Stephen F. Greb, Kentucky Geological Survey, University of Kentucky. For more information about these publications, fossils, ancient life, or other geological information visit the Kentucky Geological Survey Web site, www.uky.edu/KGS.
Ancient Invertebrates

Fossils provide evidence of ancient life. Color or shade only those creatures or fossils you think might be fossils or pictures of ancient invertebrate animals.

Invertebrates: Animals that do not have backbones. Includes animals such as clams, corals, crabs, jellyfish, insects, squids, spiders, and worms.
Ancient Mammals

Fossils provide evidence of ancient life. Color or shade only those creatures or fossils you think might be fossils or pictures of ancient mammals.

Mammals: Warm-blooded vertebrate animals that have hair and usually give birth to live young rather than laying eggs. Female mammals make milk to feed their babies. Includes animals such as cats, dogs, horses, pigs, rodents, seals, and whales. People are mammals too.
Ancient Reptiles

Fossils provide evidence of ancient life. Color or shade only those creatures or fossils you think might be fossils or pictures of ancient reptiles.

Reptiles: Cold-blooded vertebrate animals that usually have scales and lays eggs to give birth. Includes animals such as alligators, crocodiles, lizards, snakes, and turtles. Dinosaurs were a type of ancient reptile.

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Ancient Fish

Fossils provide evidence of ancient life. Color or shade only those creatures or fossils you think might be fossils or pictures of ancient fish.

Fish: Cold-blooded vertebrate animals that live in the water, have gills for breathing, and usually have scales and fins. Includes animals such as bass, bluegills, catfish, eels, goldfish, minnows, piranhas, sharks, stingrays, swordfish, trout, and tuna.
Ancient Amphibians

Fossils provide evidence of ancient life. Color or shade only those creatures or fossils you think might be fossils or pictures of ancient amphibians.

Amphibians: Cold-blooded vertebrate animals that live in the water and breath through gills when they are young, and then develop lungs and have the ability to live on land when they are adults. Includes frogs, salamanders, and toads.
Ancient Birds

Fossils provide evidence of ancient life. Color or shade only those creatures or fossils you think might be fossils or pictures of ancient birds.

Birds: Warm-blooded vertebrate animals that have feathers, wings, two legs, and a beak. Birds lay eggs to give birth. Most birds can fly. Includes cardinals, chickens, ducks, eagles, geese, hawks, ostriches, owls, and penguins.
Ancient Dinosaurs

Fossils provide evidence of ancient life. Color or shade only those creatures or fossils you think might be fossils or pictures of dinosaurs.

Dinosaurs: A type of land-living, extinct reptile that lived during the Mesozoic Era, 65 to 125 million years ago. All dinosaurs had legs. Dinosaurs were vertebrate animals.
Ancient Aquatic Creatures (lake, sea, or ocean)

Fossils provide evidence of ancient life. Color or shade only those creatures or fossils you think might be fossils or pictures of ancient sea creatures.

In some areas, fossils of sea creatures are common on land. What might that mean?
Ancient Plants

Fossils provide evidence of ancient life. Color or shade only those creatures or fossils you think might be fossils or pictures of ancient plants.

Plants: Living organisms that use chlorophyll to make food from the energy of the sun. Includes algae, bushes, cactus, flowers, fruit, grasses, nuts, seaweed, trees, vines, weeds, and vegetables.

Worksheet to be used with the “Progression of Life” poster (1988) or “Guide to ‘Progression of Life’” booklet (1989), by Stephen F. Greb, Kentucky Geological Survey, University of Kentucky. For more information about these publications, fossils, ancient life, or other geological information visit the Kentucky Geological Survey Web site, www.uky.edu/KGS.
Ancient Land Animals

Fossils provide evidence of ancient life. Color or shade only those creatures or fossils you think might be fossils or pictures of ancient animals that lived on land.

Fossils of land creatures are sometimes found at the bottom of the sea. What might that mean?