

Getting Into the Fossil Record Scavenger Hunt

Directions: To access the scavenger hunt website, follow the link:

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

As you navigate through, keep your eyes open for answers to the following questions. **Be sure to** watch the animation(s) and click on things you can click on.

Hint: The questions are in order of appearance. Do NOT skip any pages or extras!

1. Name 5 kinds of **trace fossils**.
2. Find the walnut. How did it become a fossil?
3. What happened to the mammoth?
4. Why are the mouse and the jellyfish being compared?
5. Why is it difficult for an organism living in the rainforest to become a fossil?
6. What are 2 reasons why many organisms never become part of the fossil record?
7. What are 2 ways that geologic processes can destroy a fossil?
8. Why isn't igneous rock a good place to look for fossils?
9. Find the map of Montana. What are 2 things to keep in mind when you are looking for a fossil like *T. rex*? What do the colors and letters represent?

USING YOUR SCAVENGER HUNT KNOWLEDGE: 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?