

Name: _____

Date: _____

1.

Use the table below to answer this question.

Condition	Dark (dark grey, brown to black)	Moderately dark (brown to yellow brown)	Light (pale brown, yellow)
Organic Matter (decaying materials)	High	Medium	Low
Aeration (air in soil)	High	Medium	Low
Fertility	High	Medium	Low

Which soil is the most fertile?

- A. yellow soil
- B. pale brown soil
- C. yellow brown soil
- D. dark brown soil

2. Which soil makes the best garden?

- A. sandy soil
- B. clay soil
- C. soil with rocks
- D. soil with minerals

3. Minerals are made from smaller parts called

- A. soil.
- B. rocks.
- C. elements.
- D. fossils.

4. The best soil for making pottery is

- A. sandy soil.
- B. loam soil.
- C. clay soil.
- D. rocky soil.

5. Fossils are usually found in

- A. rocks.
- B. minerals.
- C. crystals.
- D. water.

6. Which is NOT true about minerals?

- A. Minerals are part of rocks.
 - B. Minerals are fossils.
 - C. Minerals are solid.
 - D. Minerals are crystals.
-

7. The woolly mammoth, an extinct animal, looked MOST like today's

- A. dinosaur.
 - B. elephant.
 - C. horse.
 - D. sheep.
-

8. If you found a fossil of a leaf in a rock, you would know that the fossil formed when

- A. someone pressed the leaf against a soft rock.
 - B. the leaf fell into soil that later became a rock.
 - C. the leaf melted into the rock.
 - D. the leaf grew inside of the rock.
-

9. Fossils of sea animals that lived millions of years ago can be found in

- A. lava from a volcano.
 - B. ice on a pond.
 - C. trunks of trees.
 - D. rocks in the ground.
-

10. Which mineral is the hardest?

- A. salt
 - B. diamond
 - C. gold
 - D. quartz
-

11. Fossils are found mostly in

- A. animals.
 - B. trees.
 - C. water.
 - D. rocks.
-

12. Which animal would be LEAST LIKELY to form a fossil?



13. Where is the BEST place to find information about how fossils are formed?

- A. an encyclopedia or computer
- B. a map or globe
- C. a chart or graph
- D. a media center or lunchroom

14. Which could become a fossil?

- A. a leaf that falls on a grassy lawn
- B. a dog's footprint on a wet sidewalk
- C. a dead bird buried in wet clay
- D. a worm crawling through the grass

15. For a living thing to become a fossil, the living thing must

- A. have a skeleton.
- B. have a hard outer shell.
- C. die by drowning in water.
- D. be dead for a very long time.

16. Fossils of fish are found under land where cows now live. You know that

- A. this land was once under the ocean.
 - B. fish used to live on land.
 - C. the fish were dropped by flying birds.
 - D. farmers fed the fish to the cows.
-

17. Soil comes from

- A. fire.
 - B. animals.
 - C. rocks.
 - D. sunlight.
-

18. According to Mohs' scale of hardness, your fingernail has a hardness value of about 2.5. Which two minerals could you scratch with your fingernail?

- A. granite and marble
 - B. gypsum and talc
 - C. quartz and calcite
 - D. corundum and topaz
-

19. Which is NOT a kind of soil?

- A. clay
 - B. mineral
 - C. loam
 - D. sand
-

20. What part of a fish would MOST LIKELY form a fossil?

- A. its scales
 - B. its teeth
 - C. its eyes
 - D. its nerves
-

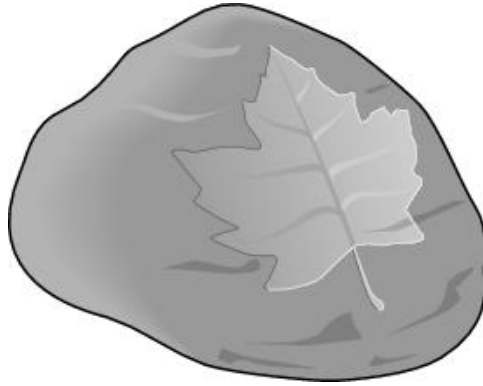
21. Stan saw tiny crystals inside a rock. He should know that the rock has

- A. a fossil inside.
 - B. minerals inside.
 - C. soil inside.
 - D. air inside.
-

22. Which is NOT a type of rock?

- A. igneous
 - B. metamorphic
 - C. sedimentary
 - D. fossil
-

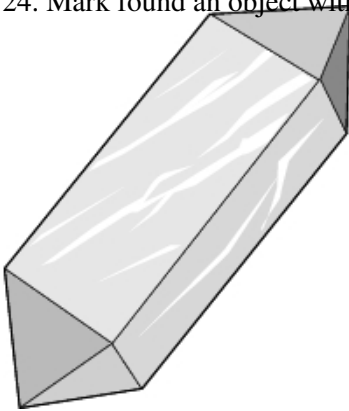
23. Steven found a fossil of a leaf.



How did the leaf become a fossil?

- A. A rock fell on a leaf.
- B. Rain glued a leaf to the rock.
- C. People drew the picture on a rock.
- D. A leaf was pressed into mud then turned to rock.

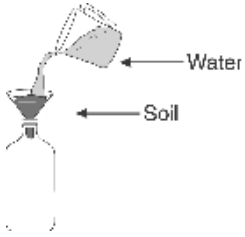
24. Mark found an object with the shape in the picture below.



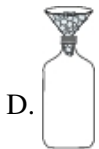
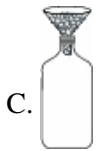
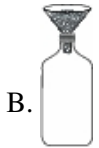
What type of object is it?

- A. fossil
 - B. metamorphic
 - C. mineral
 - D. sedimentary
-

25. Jan is testing soil to see how much water it holds.



Which soil below will hold the MOST water?



26.

Why do bones and teeth remain as part of some fossils?

- A. They are white.
 - B. Bones are large.
 - C. The parts are hard.
 - D. Bones decay easily.
-

27.

Which answer best completes this sentence?

A _____ is the same all the way through.

- A. rock
 - B. beach
 - C. mineral
 - D. mountain
-

28.

Table salt is a mineral. Which is one reason table salt would be classified as a mineral?

- A. It is found in only one color.
 - B. It melts at high temperatures.
 - C. It has a definite crystal structure.
 - D. It is found in only one place on Earth.
-

29.

One way to compare minerals is to see how the mineral **feels**. When we feel a mineral we are trying to describe its

- A. color.
 - B. streak.
 - C. weight.
 - D. texture.
-

30.

Color is often the first attribute of a mineral that is noticed. Which explains why this property is the most inaccurate method for identifying minerals?

- A. clay changes the color
 - B. many minerals may have the same color
 - C. it depends on the amount of sunlight that is reflected
 - D. it depends on the amount of oxygen the mineral was exposed to
-

31.

Kate wanted to plant some flowers for her mother. She found a bag of soil in the shed. It was light tan, had big, coarse grains, and when she poured water over it, the water ran right through the soil.

What kind of soil did Kate MOST LIKELY find?

- A. clay
 - B. loam
 - C. sand
 - D. potting soil
-

32.

Clay, sand, silt, and organic matter often make up which substance?

- A. soil
 - B. rocks
 - C. plants
 - D. mountains
-

33.

Mike just moved into a new house. He noticed that during the spring, the rain washed away a lot of the soil around his house. What does the area around Mike's house MOST LIKELY look like?

- A. flat with grass and trees
 - B. sloping with grass and trees
 - C. sloping with grass and a fence
 - D. sloping without any grass or trees
-

34.

Susan found some very smooth, round rocks near a small stream. What caused Susan's rocks to be weathered in this way?

- A. wind
 - B. moving water
 - C. acid in the water
 - D. fish in the stream
-

35.

Which of these is something that you could find out if you studied fossils?

- A. the color of the animal
 - B. the exact age of the animal
 - C. what color eggs the animal laid
 - D. how many legs the animal walked on
-

36. Which part of a dinosaur is *least* likely to be found as a fossil?

- A. Bones
- B. Claws
- C. Teeth
- D. Muscle

Answer Key

1. D) dark brown soil
2. D) soil with minerals
3. C) elements.
4. C) clay soil.
5. A) rocks.
6. B) Minerals are fossils.
7. B) elephant.
8. B) the leaf fell into soil that later became a rock.
9. D) rocks in the ground.
10. B) diamond
11. D) rocks.



12. B)
13. A) an encyclopedia or computer
14. C) a dead bird buried in wet clay
15. D) be dead for a very long time.
16. A) this land was once under the ocean.
17. C) rocks.
18. B) gypsum and talc
19. B) mineral
20. B) its teeth
21. B) minerals inside.
22. D) fossil
23. D) A leaf was pressed into mud then turned to rock.

24. C) mineral



25. A)

26. C) The parts are hard.

27. C) mineral

28. C) It has a definite crystal structure.

29. D) texture.

30. B) many minerals may have the same color

31. C) sand

32. A) soil

33. D) sloping without any grass or trees

34. B) moving water

35. D) how many legs the animal walked on

36. D) Muscle