



Science Toolkit: Grade 8 Objective 2.B.2.b

Student Handout: Science: Grade 8 Objective 2.B.2.b

Standard 2.0 Earth/Space Science

Topic B. Earth History

Indicator 2. Recognize and explain that fossils found in layers of sedimentary rock provide evidence of changing life forms.

Objective b. Recognize and explain that the fossil record of plants and animals describes changes in life forms over time.

Selected Response (SR) Item

Question

Use the information below to answer the following.

The Hawaiian Islands are home to some of the most studied volcanoes on Earth. The volcanoes erupt often but are seldom explosive because of the magma that they produce. Kilauea volcano is located on the largest of the Hawaiian islands and rises over 4,200 feet above sea level. Kilauea has been erupting continuously since 1983 and has resulted in new landmass.

A fossil found in a surface rock layer is of the same species as a fossil found in a deeper rock layer. However, the two fossils differ slightly in structure.

Differences in the structures of the fossils indicate that

- A. this species changed over time
- B. this species had many predators
- C. the life span of this species changed
- D. the food supply of this species changed

Correct Answer

- A. this species changed over time

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