

High School Scavenger Hunt

1. Stromatolites were once one of the most successful organisms, why did their population start to steadily decline?

2. Some ammonites have different shapes than the traditional spiral ammonite; these are called “heteromorph” ammonites. What do you think is a possible reason for these odd shapes?

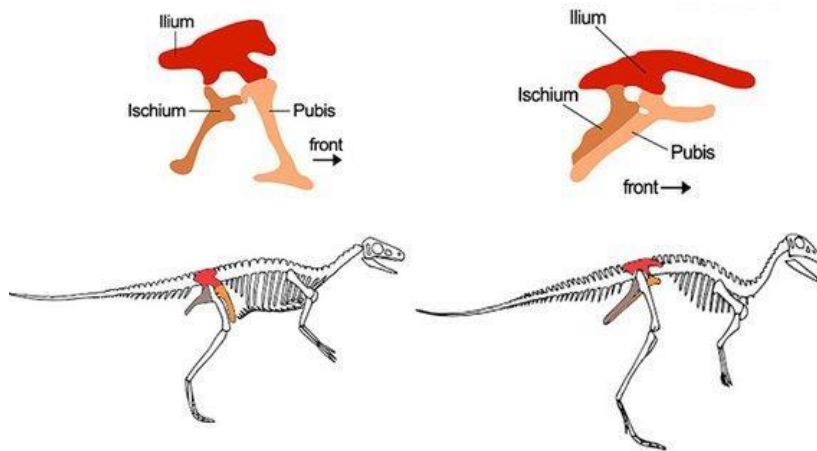
3. Looking at the “Trilobite and Friends” display, there are many different types of creatures that fossilized together, name three of the species that you see.

4. Modern sharks are often referred to as “living fossils”, however prehistoric sharks looked very different from the sharks we have today. List two ways in which prehistoric and modern sharks differ.

5. Give one reason why fish may have developed jaws.

6. What caused the largest extinction event in Earth's history at the end of the Permian Period? What percentage of organisms died, and list one organism that survived.

7. Which dinosaur would be classified as saurischian? Ornithischian? Label the diagram below.



8. Are pterosaurs dinosaurs? Give one reason to support your answer.

9. What is the most significant fossil to come out of the Solnhofen limestone in Germany and why is it so famous?

10. Some marine reptiles, like *Zarafasaura*, have very long necks. Give one reason as to why this trait is beneficial in the ocean.

11. Why did sauropods, such as Jimbo the *Supersaurus*, have hollow bones?

12. One of our sites, called Bone Bed, has produced 6-7 Diplodocus individuals of varying sizes. Why do you think these different sized individuals were all found in the same site?

13. There are two species of Hadrosaurs (duck-billed dinosaurs) on display, the *Maiasaura* and *Hypacrosaurus*, near a nest of *Maiasaura* babies. Compare and contrast the two species of Hadrosaurs:

14. Place the North American Ceratopsians in age order from oldest to youngest:

15. Describe how the landscape of Wyoming has changed from the Oligocene epoch (35 MYA) to modern day.
