## There are actually 5 processes...



## MECHANICAL WEATHERING

The physical breaking down of rock into sediment

## CHEMICAL WEATHERING

When chemicals slowly dissolve and break down rock into sediment







## Why are sedimentary rocks the only rocks to have fossils?



Igneous cannot have fossils because...



Metamorphic rocks cannot have fossils because...



Sedimentary Rocks CAN have fossils because...







## Fossil Creation & Types





<ol> <li>Sedimentary rock must be formed in 5 important steps:</li> </ol>	
a into sediment	The breaking of other rocks
b	The carrying of sediment
c	The "dropping off"of sediment
d sediment (as sediment contin sediment)	<u></u>
e (in water) & crystallize (sedim	when minerals dissolve nent is "glued together")

## The steps to create most fossils in sedimentary rock:

1) Animal dies and sinks to the bottom of \_\_\_\_\_\_, usually a lake or pond.

2) \_\_\_\_\_ covers the organism. Soft parts of organism

3) Through steps for \_\_\_\_\_ rock (EDCC) sediment becomes rock preserving parts of the organism.

4) Weather (breaking down) & erosion (carrying away) eventually \_\_\_\_\_\_ fossil at surface.



# Fossil

# Types

## Molds

## What it is:

area in sediment in the shape

of the organism.

How it's formed: 1.) The hard part of an organism, such as a shell, is buried in sediment. 2.)The hard part leaves an impression in the sediment, which eventually becomes sedimentary rock.



## More molds....



**Paleozoic Era** 

## **KEICHOUSAUR –** Triassic 1<sup>st</sup> appearence



## Casts

#### What it is:

Α

## of an organism. The \_\_\_\_\_

of a mold.

#### How it's formed:

1)Water carrying dissolved minerals seeps into the empty space of a mold.

2) Once the water and dissolved minerals solidify they create a cast.



#### Part of a Trilobite – appeared in Cambrian time

## More casts....





Starfish – 1<sup>st</sup> appeared during Cambrian time



Paranthropus boisei (very early ancestor of humans) lived predominately in Tertiary time period

## **Petrified Fossils**

#### What it is:

\*Petrified = turned to stone\*

Fossil in which \_\_\_\_\_ have replaced all or part of an organism. Sometimes parts of the original organism is preserved.

#### How it's formed:

Sediment covers the organism.
 Water rich in minerals seeps into the organism.

3)Minerals in solution harden and fill in all spaces of organism.



## **Petrified Tree**







## **Carbon Films**

#### What it is:

An extremely thin coating of (all life contains carbon) on rock, usually black. Often preserves delicate plant leaves & insects.

#### How it's formed:

 Organism is buried in sediment.
 Organism evaporates over thousands of years.
 Carbon in organism remains, leaving a black film on rock it rests on.





## **Plant carbon films**

## **Trace Fossils**

#### What it is:

Fossil that provides evidence of the \_\_\_\_\_\_ of ancient organisms. Example: fossilized footprint.

#### How it's formed:

1)Footprint or other trace of activity is set in mud or sand.

2)Print gets buried in layers of sediment.3)Sediment becomes sedimentary rock preserving the footprint for millions of years.



#### \*\*\*Why Trace Fossils Are Important\*\*\*

Scientists can learn about the size, weight and activity of organisms. For example, the distance between prints can tell you the length of organisms legs.



## Dinosaur footprint



Human footprint 20,000 years ago during ice age

## **Preserved Remains**

#### What it is:

An organism that is preserved with \_\_\_\_\_\_ change. For example, almost every part of an organism is preserved (wings, legs, hair on legs, etc.).



### How it's formed:

Multiple methods-

- 1)Organisms become trapped in tar, tar seeps into bones preventing them from decay.
- 2)Organisms become trapped in amber (thick hardening sap) preserving insects by preventing decay of delicate parts, as amber hardens.
- 3)Organisms can freeze in ice in very cold climates. Can preserve delicate parts such as hair of the wooly mammoth.



Artistic image of wooly mammoth partially frozen in glacier – appeared 50 mya Mosquito preserved in amber- oldest mosquitoes are over 2 millions year old

