CLUES TO EARTHS PAST

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| **Across**  **6.** A thin film of carbon residue is left, forming a silhouette of the original organism  **8.** A person, animal, or group living in a place or environment.  **11.** A hard part of something being dissolved and leaving behind a cavity.  **12.** Plant matter accumulating, over millions of years, these deposits become completely carbonized, forming \_\_\_\_.  **14.** Somethings age, to the comparison to the ages of other things.  **15.**  Remains, imprints, or traces of prehistoric organisms.  **16.** The time taken for any specified property to decrease by half.  **18.** Living thing such as animal, plant and human.  **19.** Gaps in rock sequences are called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.  **20.** Belonging to or forming the outer surface or structure of something. | **Down**  **1.** A scientist who studies fossils.  **2.** Sometimes conditions allow \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of organisms to be preserved for millions of years.  **3.** The process in which something is being broken down.  **4.** Rock formed when sediments are cemented and compacted.  **5.** Remains of species that existed on Earth for a short period of time.  **7.** A method of dating geological or archeological specimens by determining the relative proportions of particular radioactive isotopes present in a sample.  **9.** The age, in years, of a rock or other object.  **10.** An expert in or student of geology.  **13.** A fossil of a footprint, trail or burrow.  **17.** The solid, nonmetallic mineral matter of which rocks are made of. |

   Fossil       Index Fossil       Half-Life       Organism        Relative Age       Carbon Films       Mold       Unconformities       Stone       Absolute Age       Radiometric Dating       Trace Fossil        External        Original Remains       Paleontologist        Coal       Radioactive Decay       Inhabited        Sedimentary Rock       Geologist