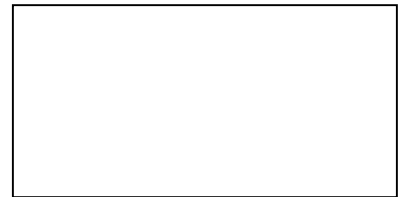


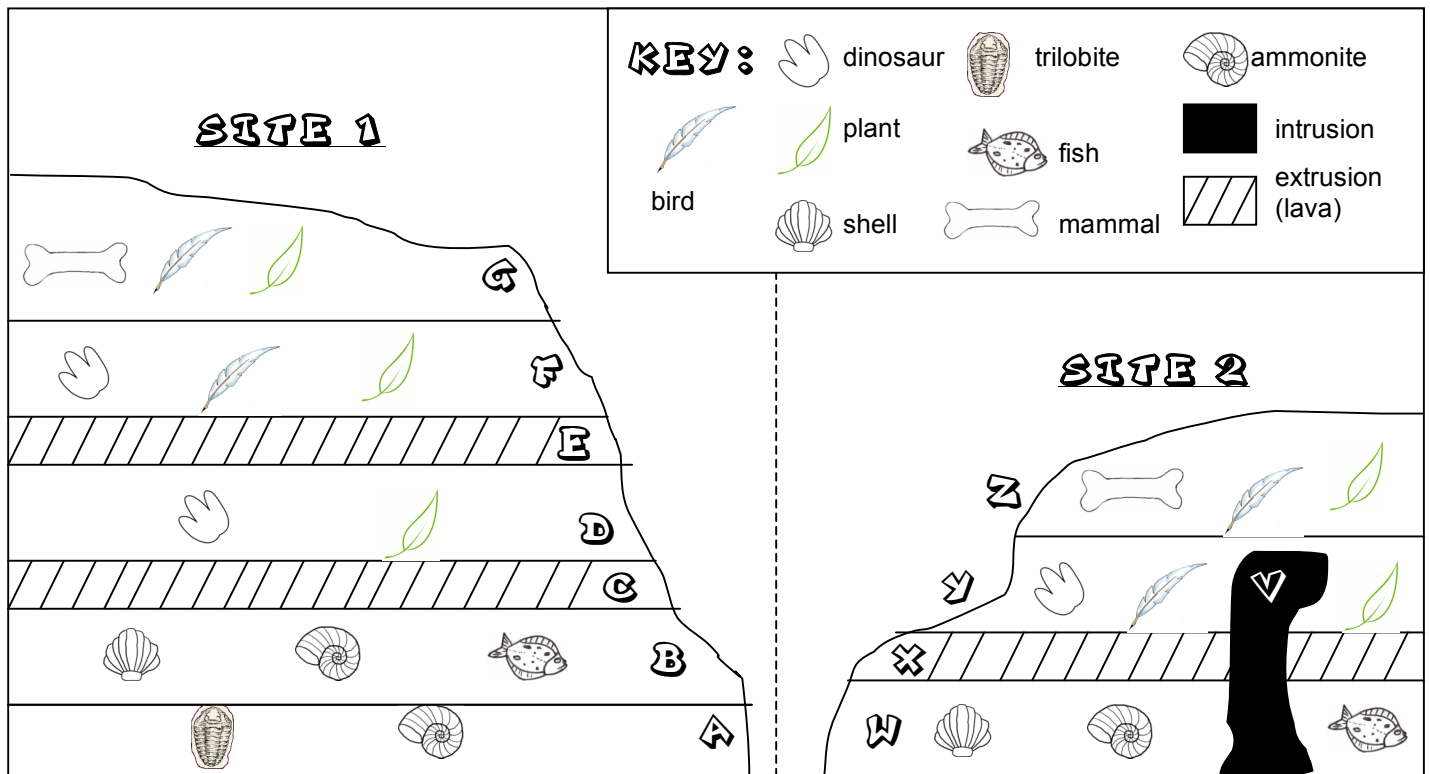
FINDING CLUES TO ROCK LAYERS



Fossil clues give geologists a good idea of what life on Earth was like millions of, even billions of years ago.

Problem: Discover how you can use fossils and geologic features to interpret the relative ages of rock layers.

Procedure: Study the rock layers and kinds of fossils found at sites 1 and 2 *very carefully*. Then Answer the corresponding questions.



SITE 1 QUESTIONS:

1) What “fossil clues” in layers A and B indicate the kind of environment that existed when these rock layers were formed? How did the environment change in layer D?

2) Which single layer is the oldest? How do you know?

3) Which layer(s) formed most recently? How do you know?

4) Why are there no fossils in layers C, E, and X?

5) What fossils occurred in layer F?

SITE 2 QUESTIONS:

6) Which layer at Site 1 might have formed at the same time as layer W at Site 2?

7) What clues show an unconformity, or gap in the horizontal rock layers?

8) Which rock layers are missing at Site 2 that occur at Site 1? What might have happened to these missing rock layers?

9) Using what you have learned about intrusions, which is older, intrusion V, or layer Y? How do you know?
