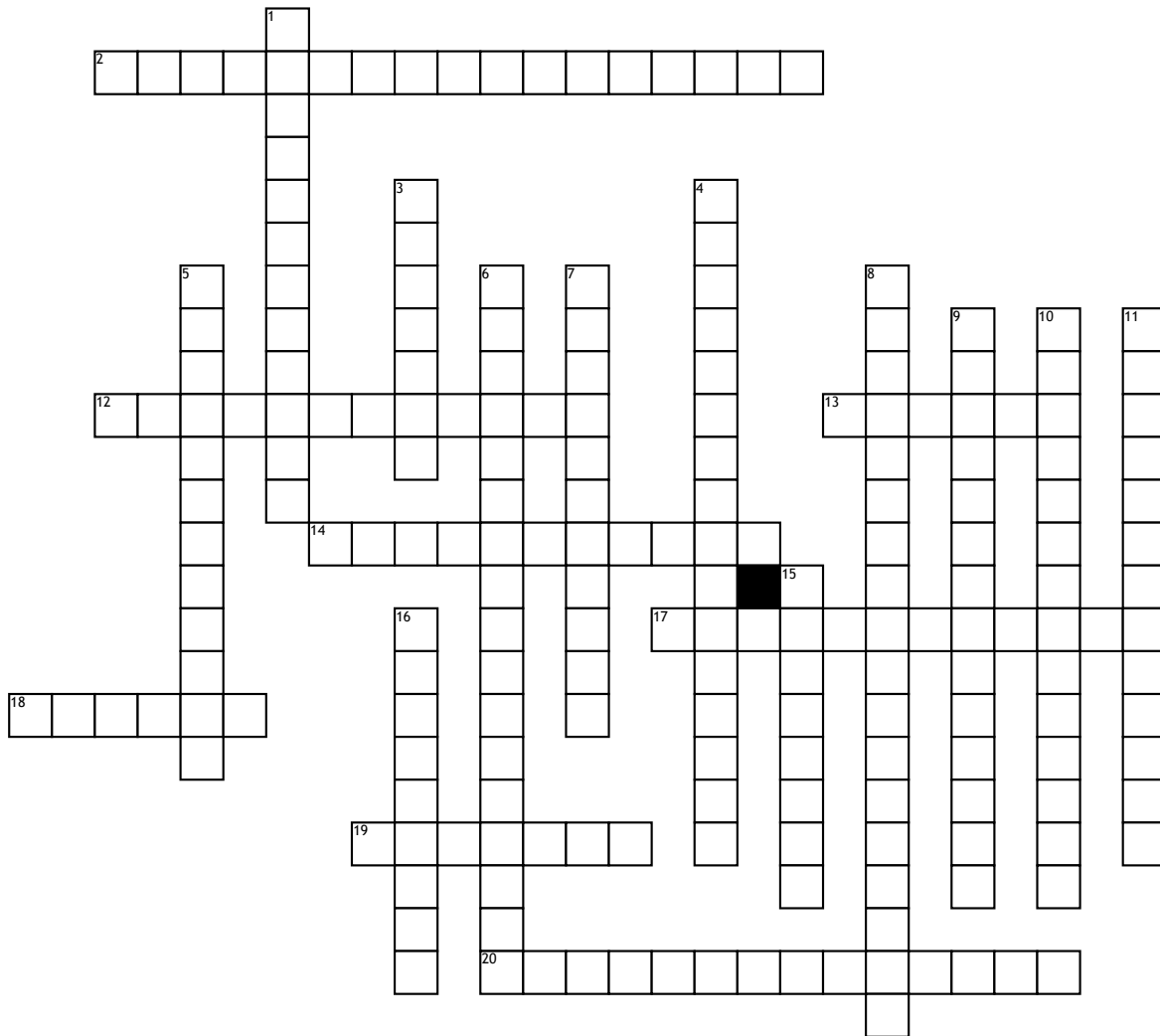


Earth's History



Across

2. idea that geologic processes that occurred in the past can be explained by current geologic processes.

12. very long period of time the Earth has existed.

13. remains or traces (whole or part) of past plant and animal life that has been preserved in sedimentary rock.

14. fossilized mark that formed in sedimentary rock by the movement of an animal on or within soft sediment.

17. stable element into which a radioactive element breaks down.

18. layers of sedimentary rocks.

19. atom of a substance that has the same number of protons but a different number of neutrons as another atom of the same substance.

20. ordered arrangement of rock layers that is based on the relative ages of the rocks and in which the oldest rocks are at the bottom.

Down

1. historical sequence of life indicated by fossils found in layers of Earth's crust.

3. permanent disappearance of a species.

4. process in which a radioactive isotope tends to break down into a stable isotope of the same element or another element.

5. A break in the geologic record created when rock layers are eroded or when sediment is not deposited for a long period of time.

6. method of determining the absolute age of an object by comparing the relative percentages of a radioactive parent isotope and a stable daughter isotope.

7. fossil that is used to establish the age of a rock layer because the fossil is distinct, abundant, and widespread and the species that formed the fossil existed for only a short span of geologic time.

8. states that in layers of sedimentary rocks, younger rocks normally lie on top of older rocks if the layers have not been disturbed.

9. Any method of measuring the age of an event or object in years.

10. Any method of determining whether an event or object is older or younger than other events or objects.

11. process by which a unstable nucleus gives off nuclear radiation.

15. amount of time required for half of an original sample of radioactive material to decay or undergo radioactive transformation.

16. igneous rock formed when magma forces its way into sedimentary rock and hardens below or on the Earth's surface.