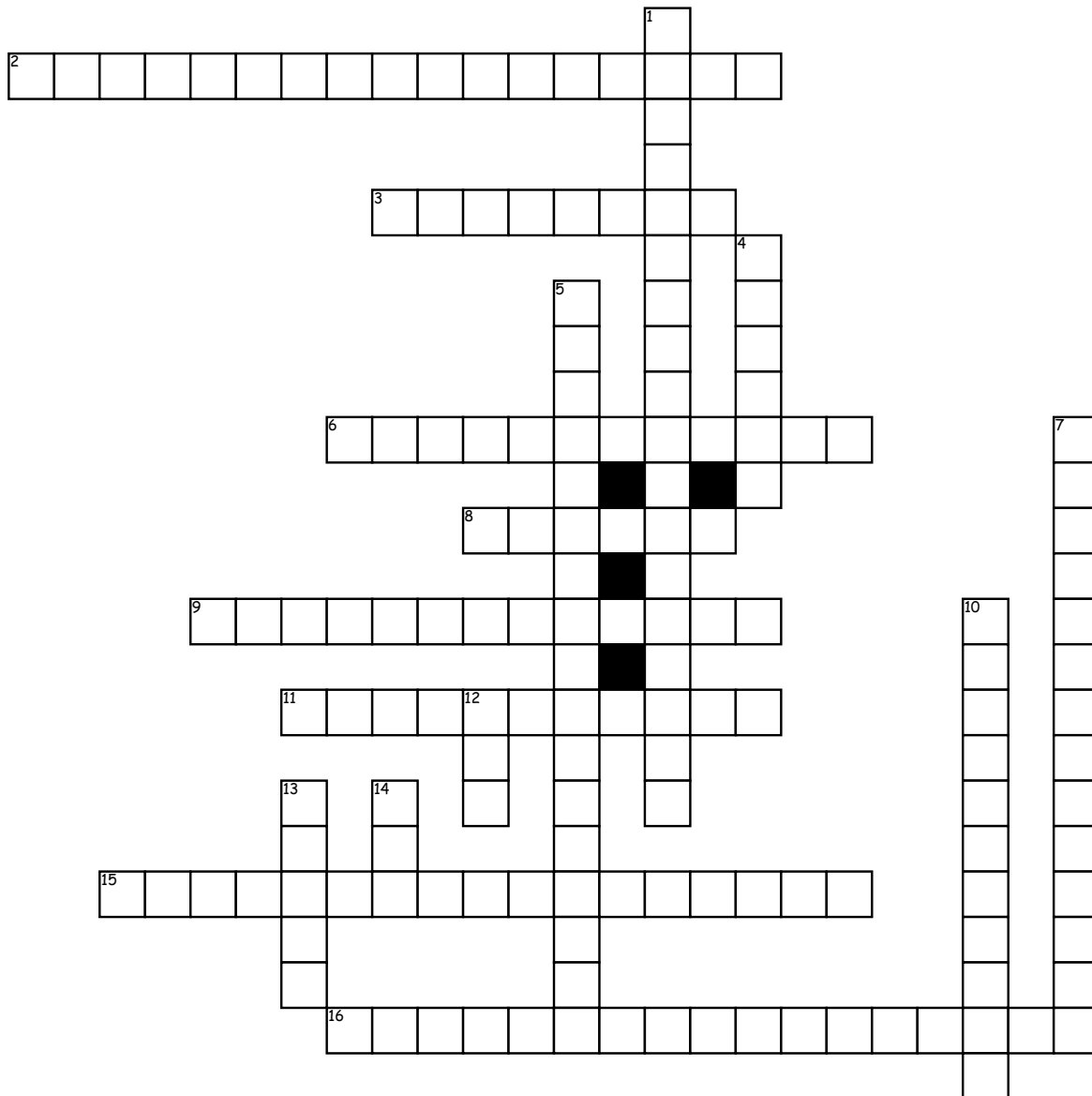


# Chapter 12



## Across

2. The division of Earth history into blocks of time
3. The time required for one half of the atoms of a radioactive substance to decay
6. A surface that represents a break in the rock record, caused by erosion or lack of deposition
8. A basic unit of the geologic time scale that is a subdivision of an era
9. The spontaneous decay of certain unstable atomic nuclei
11. Establishing the equivalence of rocks of similar age in different areas

15. Method for determining age by comparing the amount of carbon-14 to the amount of carbon-12 in a sample

16. The procedure of calculating the absolute ages of rocks and minerals that contain radioactive isotopes

## Down

1. Law that states that in any undeformed sequence of sedimentary rocks, each bed is older than the layers above and younger than the layers below
4. The remains or traces of an organism preserved from the geologic past

5. Principle that states that the physical, chemical, and biological laws that operate today also operated in the geologic past

7. Process by which rocks are placed in their proper sequence or order

10. A fossil that is associated with a particular span of geologic time

12. The largest time unit on the geologic time scale

13. A unit of the geologic time scale that is a subdivision of a period

14. A major division on the geologic time scale