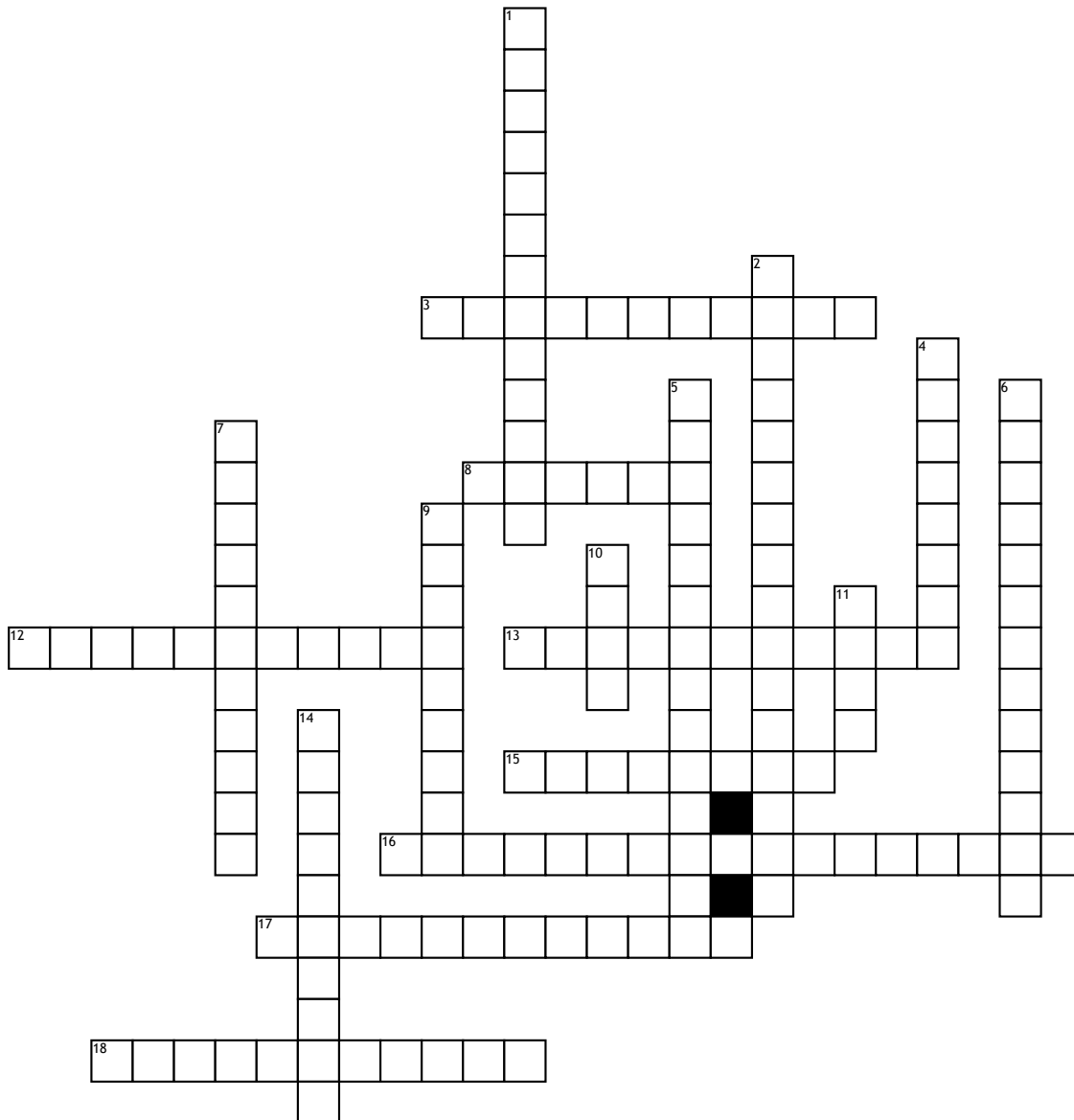


Name: _____

Date: _____

Clues to Earth's Past



Across

3. the numerical age, in years, of a rock or object

8. Preserved remains or evidence of ancient living things

12. a fossil representative of a species that existed on earth for a short period of time, was abundant, and inhabited many location

13. the age of rocks and geologic features compared with other nearby rocks and features

15. atoms of the same element that have different numbers of neutrons

16. a principle stating that geologic processes that occur today are similar to those that occur in the past

17. a surface where rock has eroded away, producing a break, or gap, in the rock record

18. a method used by geologists to fill in the missing gaps in an area's rock record by matching rocks and fossils from separate locations

Down

1. the principle that in undisturbed rock layers, the oldest rocks are on the bottom

2. the process by which an unstable element naturally changes into another element that is stable

4. the time required for half of the amount of a radioactive parent element to decay into a stable daughter element

5. a scientist who studies fossils

6. The idea that conditions and organisms on Earth change in quick, violent events

7. the preserved evidence of the activity of an organism

9. a piece of an older rock that becomes a part of a new rock

10. the impression of an organism in a rock

11. a fossil copy of an organism made when a mold of the organism is filled with sediment or mineral deposits

14. the fossilized carbon outline of an organism or part of an organism