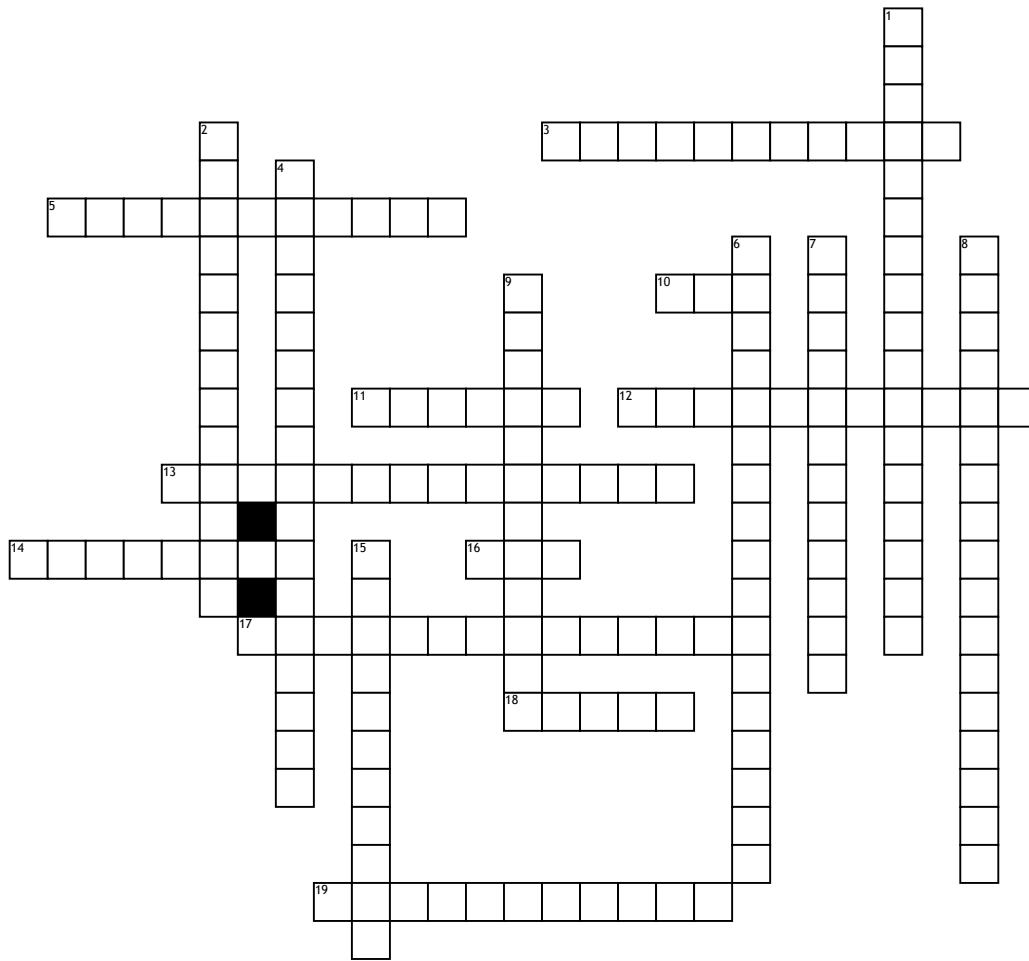


Name: _____

Date: _____

Geologic Time



Across

3. Indirect fossil evidence, like footprints, of an organism
 5. Unit of geologic time when Earth formed and became hospitable for life
 10. Second longest time in the geologic time scale
 11. Third longest time unit in the geologic time scale
 12. "Present" time period
 13. Determines the age of organic objects that were once alive
 14. The period of time it takes for one half of a radioactive isotope to decay

16. Longest time in the geologic time scale
 17. Occurs when an unusually large number of organisms disappear from the rock record at the same time
 18. Time unit in the geologic time scale smaller than a period
 19. Remains of plants or animals that were very abundant and existed briefly
Down

1. Determines the age of a rock or fossil by determining the ratio of parent to daughter nuclei
 2. Microscopic, photosynthetic prokaryotes

4. Method that enables scientists to determine the actual age of rocks
 6. Establishing the order of past geographic events
 7. "Ancient" time period
 8. Sudden appearance of a diverse collection of organisms in the Cambrian fossil record
 9. Large mat or mound composed of billions of photosynthetic bacteria that dominated shallow oceans
 15. "Middle" time period

Word Bank

cambrian explosion
 Cenozoic Era
 Cyanobacteria
 Eon
 epoch

Radiocarbon Dating
 half life
 Mass Extinction
 Absolute age dating
 Precambrian

Period
 Paleozoic Era
 Era
 Radiometric dating
 Index fossil

Relative dating
 Trace Fossil
 stromatolite
 Mesozoic Era