

Grades 9–12 | Earth Sciences Gallery

1. At the entrance to the gallery there is a sculpture on the wall. What do you think the artwork represents? _____

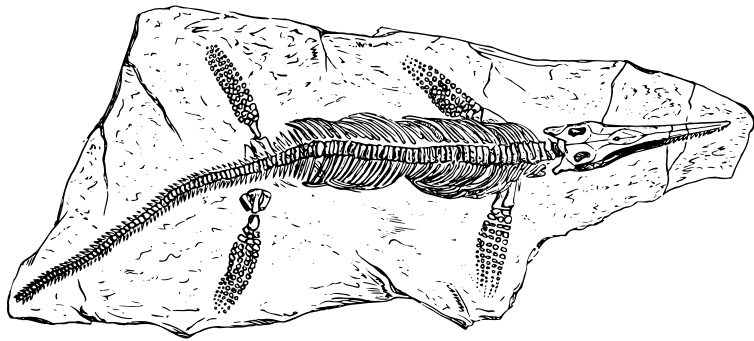
2. The gallery starts off with Saskatchewan in the Cretaceous Period but there are many millions of years of history before that. Judging by the location of Saskatchewan during the Jurassic Period, what do you think the landscape of Saskatchewan would have been like? What types of plants and animals do you think were living at that time? What evidence would you use to support this? What natural resource was a result of these organisms buried in the sea? _____

3. What area of North America was covered by the shallow, warm ancient sea in the Cretaceous Period? _____

4. In the mososaur diorama, what ancient creature resembles a modern day creature? _____

5. Look at how the colouring of the Mosasaur and the Plesiosaur has been done in this exhibit. Since we don't know for sure the colours or patterns on marine reptiles from long ago why do you think the colours shown were chosen? Why are these creatures darker and mottled on their backs and lighter on the underside? _____

6. If you were a palaeontologist and found the *Thescelosaurus*, would you be able to identify it immediately? When palaeontologists uncover a complete skeleton that has remains in the same position as when the animal died, they call it an “articulated skeleton.” Is this an articulated skeleton? What steps would you take to identify this skeleton? _____



7. What has to happen for a bone to become a fossil? _____

8. Why does *Triceratops* have a chunk gone from its frill? _____

9. After the disappearance of the dinosaurs came the Tertiary (now called Paleogene) Period. What natural occurrences took place in Saskatchewan to lead to the growth in size and numbers of the mammals? (hint: Palaeontologists aren't even certain of the reason for this). _____

10. How tall was the early horse? _____

11. The ancestors of the mastodon entered North America 14 million years ago from Asia. How did they cross into North America?

12. How can one determine the direction of ice movement by looking at a drumlin? _____

13. What did the South Saskatchewan river originate as? _____

14. Push the start button on the glacier diorama and answer the following question: What other glacial feature, other than drumlins, shows the path of ice flow? _____
