



## Is this a fossil?

While Cincinnati is famous for its fossils, most are stuck together in limestone rock. Instead of asking if the large rock you found is a fossil, look closer within the rock for the creatures on this sheet. If you think you have figured out what creature it is, then it's time to double check with your leader if you have indeed found a fossil.

**Take a closer look, there are fossils hidden inside!**



**Horn Coral**



**Bryozoan**



**Gastropod**

See which of these fossils you can find!



## Cephalopod

- Had well-developed eyes, a beak and long, foot-like tentacles for capturing prey.
- Was able to add chambers to its shell as it grew. Some reached 13 to 15 feet!
- Shells could be straight or curved, depending on the species.
- Modern-day cephalopods include octopuses, nautilus and squids.



## Bryozoan

- Similar in appearance to modern-day coral.
- Was a very small animal that lived in colonies made out of calcium carbonate.
- Secreted a hard skeleton in which it lived in: an opening about the size of a sewing needle.
- Used tiny tentacles to grab microscopic organisms floating in water.



## Brachiopod

- Resemble modern-day clams.
- While a lot Ordovician species are extinct, there are still about 300 species of this animal still alive.



## Crinoid

- Commonly called sea lilies since they look like plants, but are actually animals.
- Usually only the stem of the crinoid becomes fossilized.
- We can tell they used feather-like arms to filter small particles of food by observing their modern-day descendants.



## Horn Coral

- Horn coral look like horns or teeth, but are actually cnidarians, which means they are ancient relatives of jellyfish.
- They would dig their hard shell into the ground, so only their possibly poisonous tentacles were exposed to catch prey.



## Gastropod

- 450-million-year-old snails.



## Trilobite

- State fossil of Ohio.
- Some species would curl up like a pill bug when sensing danger.

