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Mr. Schmidt Science 8

Cambrian explosion paleogeography passive margin regression transgression

Amniotic egg iridium phytoplankton bipedal Homo sapiens

1. Homo sapiens – species to which modern humans belong
2. Cambrian explosion – sudden appearance of a diverse collection of organisms in the Cambrian fossil record.
3. Amniotic egg – egg with a shell, providing a complete environment for a developing embryo.
4. Bipedal – walking upright on two legs.
5. Phytoplankton – microscopic organisms that are the basis of marine food chains; abundant during the Cretaceous and the remains of their shell-like hard parts are found in chalk deposits worldwide.
6. Iridium – metal that is rare in rocks at Earth’s surface but is relatively common in asteroids.
7. Regression – occurs when sea level falls; causing the shoreline to move seaward, and results in shallower-water deposits overlying deep-water deposits.
8. Paleogeography – an ancient geographic setting of an area.
9. Passive margin – edge of a continent along which there is no tectonic activity.
10. Transgression – occurs when sea level rises and causes the shoreline to move inland, resulting in deeper-water deposits overlying shallower-water deposits.