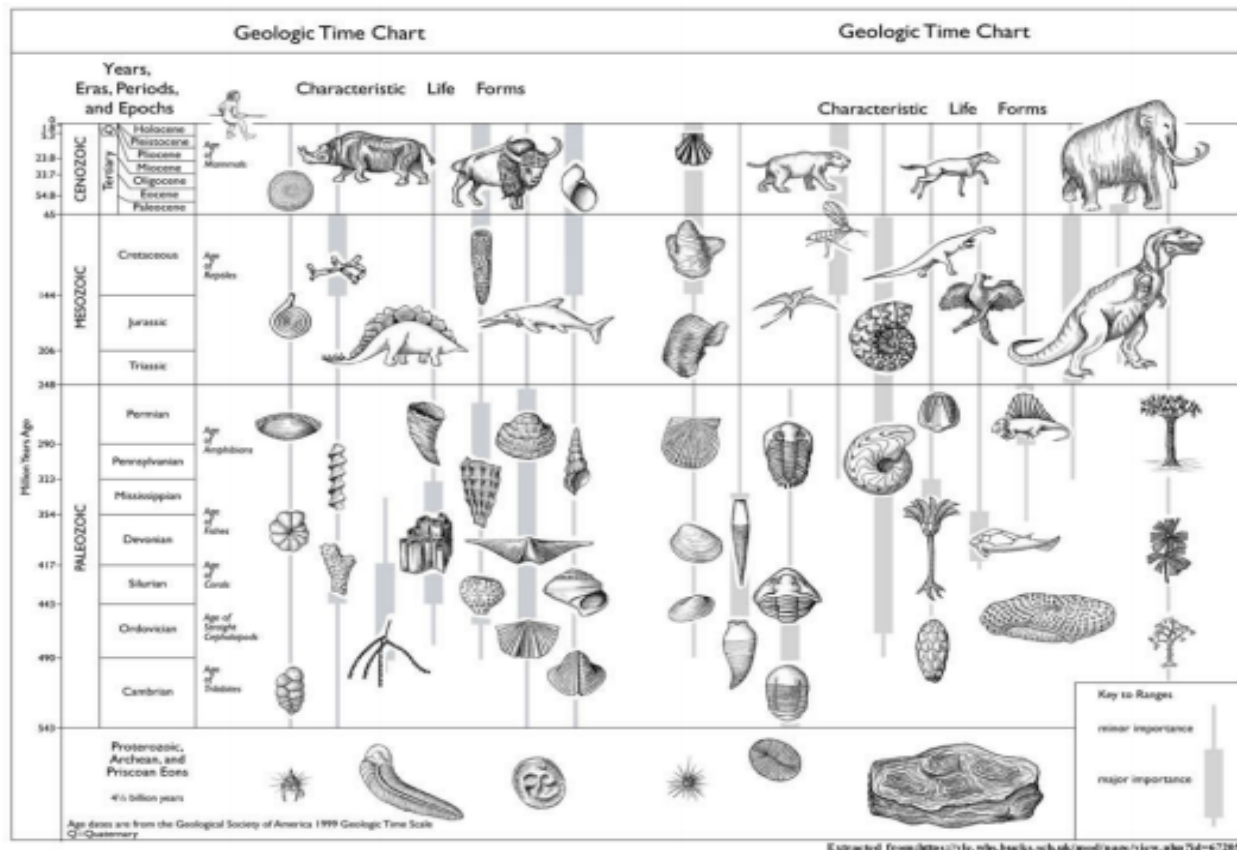


## Guide fossils

Guide fossils are fossils used to define and identify geologic periods (or faunal stages). As some species lived during very short period, the presence of its fossils are valuable to determine the age of the sediments, and to correlate sediments from different places. The shorter the lifespan of a species, the more precisely different sediments can be correlated, and so rapidly evolving types of fossils are particularly valuable. The best index fossils are common, easy-to-identify at species level, and have a broad distribution—otherwise the likelihood of finding and recognizing one in the two sediments is minor.



## More resources about guide fossils

- Index fossil, Wikipedia: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Index\\_fossil](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Index_fossil)
- How the fossil record supports evolution <https://vle.wbs.bucks.sch.uk/course/view.php?id=5741>