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**Textbook chapters**: 6

**Academic Knowledge and Skills:**

* 18 - describe Earth's geologic history
* 18a - interpret the geologic history of Earth based on the principles of uniformitarianism, superposition, and original horizontality
* 18a1 - apply the law of superposition to determine the relative age of rocks
* 18b - describe how fossils show evidence of the changing surface and climate of Earth (GPS)
* 18b1 - describe the evidence used to provide historical background for the geologic time scale
* 18b3 - discuss Earth’s history and recognize that change occurs constantly and slowly over time

**Essential Questions**:

1. What is the principle of uniformitarianism and how does it relate to geology?
2. What is a fossil?
3. Explain original horizontality.
4. How does the Law of Superposition determine the relative age of sedimentary rock?
5. What are some examples of fossils showing evidence of the changing of Earth’s surface?
6. If you found a fossilized shell on a mountaintop, what could you infer about how Earth’s surface and climate have changed since the shell was formed?
7. What are some examples of fossils showing evidence of the changing of Earth’s climate?

**Related vocabulary**:

Fossil, sedimentary rock, petrified fossils, mold, cast, carbon film, trace fossils, scientific theory, evolution, extinct, relative age, absolute age, law of superposition, extrusion, intrusion, fault, unconformity, index fossil, atoms, element, radioactive decay, half-life, eras, periods, epochs, geologic time scale, original horizontality,