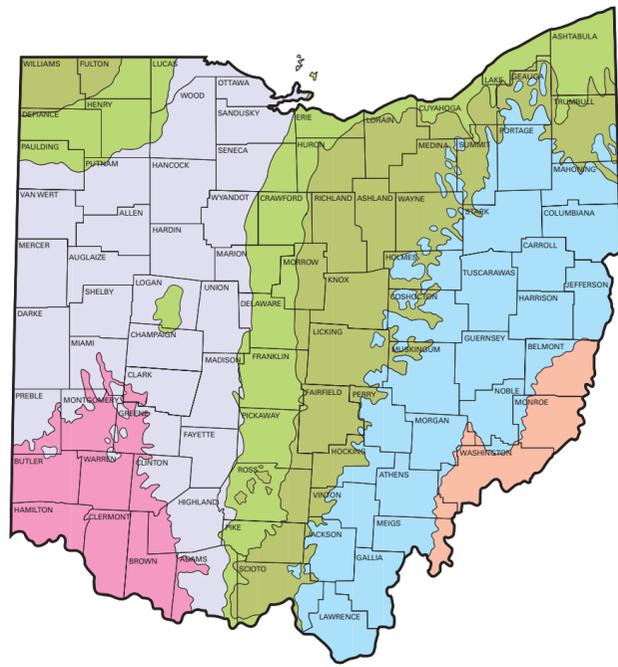


OHIO'S FOSSILS

Ohio has a rich record of fossil plants and animals preserved in rocks spanning the Ordovician through the Permian Periods of the Paleozoic Era and the Pleistocene Epoch of the Cenozoic Era. Fossils from Ohio are important constituents of museum collections throughout the United States and Europe. Ordovician rocks in southwestern Ohio and Devonian rocks in northwestern Ohio are world famous for the abundance, variety, and excellent preservation of the fossils they contain.



ORDOVICIAN	SILURIAN	DEVONIAN	MISSISSIPPIAN	PENNSYLVANIAN	PERMIAN
505 million years ago	440 mya	410 mya	360 mya	325 mya	286 mya
<p>Rock types in Ohio: Limestone, shale</p>	<p>Rock types in Ohio: Limestone, dolomite, salt, anhydrite</p>	<p>Rock types in Ohio: Limestone, dolomite, shale, black shale</p>	<p>Rock types in Ohio: Sandstone, shale, limestone</p>	<p>Rock types in Ohio: Sandstone, shale, clay, limestone, coal</p>	<p>Rock types in Ohio: Sandstone, shale, limestone, coal</p>
<p>Environmental setting: Ohio covered by shallow, tropical sea</p>	<p>Environmental setting: Ohio covered by shallow, tropical sea with abundant reefs</p>	<p>Environmental setting: Most of Ohio covered by shallow, tropical sea</p>	<p>Environmental setting: Parts of Ohio covered by shallow, tropical sea; deltas present in eastern Ohio</p>	<p>Environmental setting: Deltas and coastal swamps widespread; marine environments decline</p>	<p>Environmental setting: Coastal swamps early in period; Ohio above sea level later in period</p>
<p>Plants: Marine algae</p>	<p>Plants: First land plants appear</p>	<p>Plants: Land plants become more abundant</p>	<p>Plants: Land plants more abundant</p>	<p>Plants: Land plants flourish</p>	<p>Plants: Land plants abundant</p>
<p>Animals: Shelled marine invertebrates abundant</p>	<p>Animals: Corals and shelled marine invertebrates abundant</p>	<p>Animals: Shelled marine invertebrates and fishes abundant</p>	<p>Animals: Marine invertebrates abundant; fishes and sharks common; amphibians appear in nearby areas</p>	<p>Animals: Marine invertebrates less common; fishes and sharks, and amphibians present; reptiles appear</p>	<p>Animals: Reptiles abundant; fishes and amphibians present; marine invertebrates rare</p>
 	 	 	 	 	 

