

# Worksheet: Fossil Preservation

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



**Butter Clam (*Saxidomus gigantea*)**

A bivalve that buries itself in sand, gravel, mud, and similar sediments up to 30 cm deep.



**Salal (*Gaultheria shallon*)**

An evergreen understory shrub that grows blue-black berries, found here in British Columbia, mostly in coastal areas.



**Common Earthworm (*Lumbricus terrestris*)**

A widespread species of earthworm that lives in semi-permanent burrows and surfaces to feed.

**1:** Out of the three organisms above, which one do you think is most likely to become fossilized? Explain your reasoning.

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**2:** Out of the three organisms above, which one do you think is most likely to leave behind a trace fossil? Explain your reasoning.

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**Bonus Question:** Is there a fossil in the fossil kit that is representative of the expected preservation type of one of the organisms above? Explain your reasoning.

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