

Index Fossil
Correlation Questions
1-6

- Investigation 7 -
post lab

1. Which rock layers contain the same index fossils at Zion and the Grand Canyon?

**Kaibab Limestone &
Z1 (limestone/sandstone)**

2. Which rock layers contain the same index fossils at Zion and Bryce?

**Z7 (shale,sandstone,limestone) &
B5 (shale, sandstone)**

3. Which rock layers contain the same index fossils at Grand Canyon and Bryce?

None

4. Is rock layer B3 older or younger than Supai Group at the Grand Canyon? How do you know?

B3 is younger, because B3 come between B5 & B1, which contain an identified index fossils younger than Z1 or Kaibab Limestone. Supai is below the Kaibab in the Grand Canyon, thus according to principle of superposition, it is older.

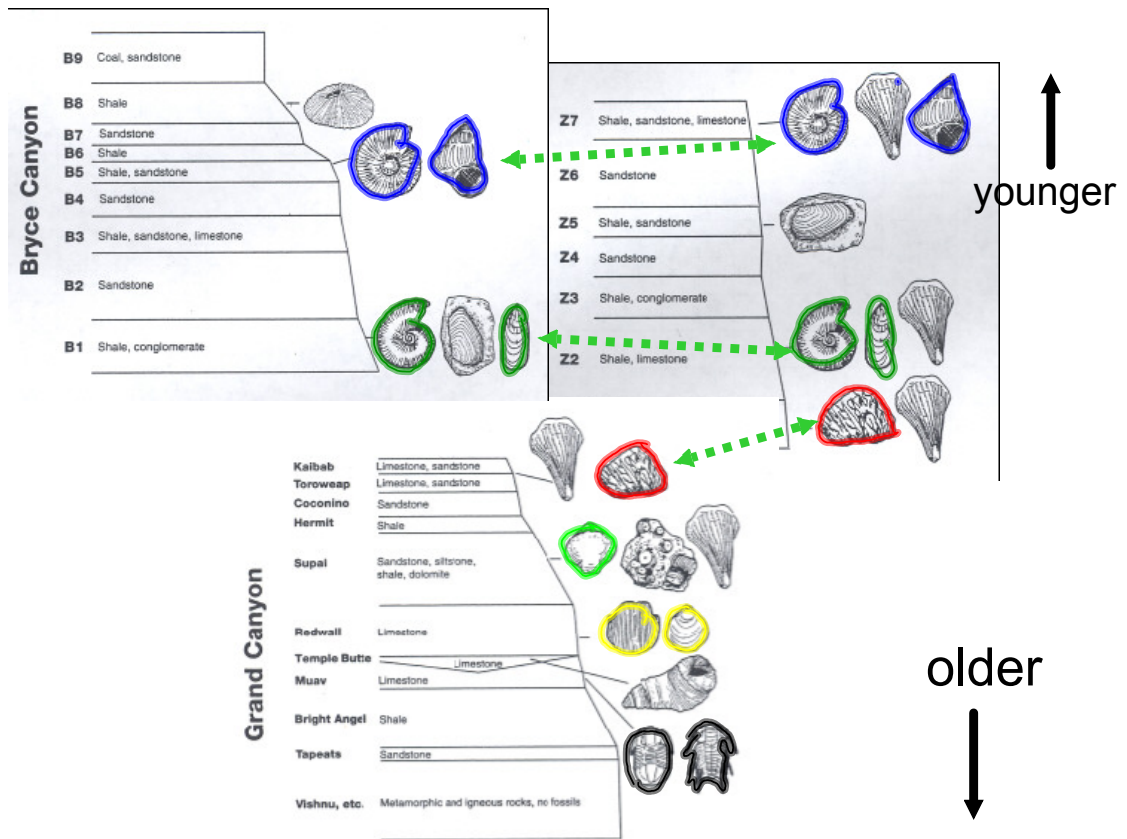
5. Is rock layer B2 at Bryce canyon older or younger than rock layer Z1 at Zion? How do you know?

B2 is younger, because Z1 index fossil is older than the index fossil found in B2. The same index fossil found in B2 is in Zion canyon above Z1, thus making it younger.

6. What do you think the environment was like at the time layer B9 was deposited at Bryce?

Swampy or a Floodplain, since there is coal (from dead plant material) & sandstone in the layer

Index Fossils question 1-6 answer key Investigation 7



If we try to match the layers up (even though they weren't attached), you can see how the index fossils line up in the 3 different canyons.