

Living Fossils: Tree of Life

Scavenger hunt



Search through the Fossil Collection, the UBC Herbarium, the Timeline Exhibit, and the Marine Invertebrates Collection to complete the scavenger hunt.

- 1) The largest known flying insect was *Meganeura*, whose wingspan could reach _____ cm. Sketch it below!

A large, empty rounded rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for a student to draw a sketch of the insect Meganeura.

- 2) The Ginkgo tree, *Ginkgo biloba* became prominent _____ to _____ million years ago.
- 3) The earliest known fossil sponges are _____ sponges, Hexactinellida, dating back over 500 million years. Scientists thought they disappeared over 30 million years ago, but in 1987 vast glass sponge reefs were discovered off the BC coast!

- 4) The oldest known fossils resembled _____, but likely weren't the first life, as these single-celled organisms are quite _____.
- 5) Take a picture of the devil's toenails, *Gryphaea* sp.
- 6) *Metasequoia*, which also goes by the name of _____, existed 50 million years ago, and still exists today in China.
- 7) Take a picture of the stromatolite. Stromatolites are built by layers of blue-green algae, and living ones still exist today.
- 8) What extinction is referred to as "The Great Dying," and features the only known mass extinction of insects?

- 9) The garden weed called horsetail, *equisetum arvense*, can be used to scrub your dishes when camping! Sketch it below, and keep an eye out for it in our courtyard on your way out.

A large, empty rounded rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for a student to draw a sketch of the horsetail plant Equisetum arvense.