

Changes During the Mesozoic Era

Name: _____

Period: _____

Answer the questions below from Chapter 9, Section 3.

The Mesozoic Era (p.281)

1. What does the word Mesozoic mean? _____
2. What animals survived from the Permian Period into the Mesozoic Era? _____

Life in the Mesozoic Era (p.281)

3. The most famous reptiles from the Mesozoic Era are _____.
4. _____ showed up in the Mesozoic Era and probably had dinosaurs as ancestors.
5. Conifers and _____ plants appeared in the Mesozoic Era.

The Cretaceous-Tertiary Extinction (p.281)

- _____ 6. What organisms disappeared during the Cretaceous-Tertiary extinction?
a. all dinosaurs b. all animals c. all plants d. all fish
7. We know that there was a Cretaceous-Tertiary extinction because many _____ disappeared from the fossil record.

Now, use the chart titled "Reptiles Reign, Mammals Emerge" and p.281 to help you.

1. What does the word "Mesozoic" mean?
2. What kind of reptiles dominated this era?
3. According to the chart, did mammals first show up at the start, middle, or end of this era?
4. Angiosperms are plants that have flowers. Would you expect to find bees (that pollinate flowers) at the start, middle, or end of this era?
5. Conifers are trees that make pinecones. Would you expect to find fossilized pinecones at the start, middle, or end of this era?

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6. Would you expect to find fossilized feathers at the start, middle, or end of this era? Explain your answer.

7. Why did large reptiles become extinct at the end of this era?

REPTILES REIGN, MAMMALS EMERGE

1-21

REPTILES REIGN, MAMMALS EMERGE

PHANEROZOIC EON_d
ERAS[☆]

CENOZOIC_g

MESOZOIC_f

PALEOZOIC_e

PROTEROZOIC EON_c

ARCHEAN EON_b

HADEAN EON_a

MESOZOIC ERA_f
PERIODS[☆]

CRETACEOUS_p

JURASSIC_p

TRIASSIC_n

