Name: _____ Period: _____ Date: _____

Mystery Fossil

	Spine, Neck, Ribs	Forelimbs	Skull & Teeth	Hind Limbs
Compare the mystery fossil to the three modern animals. Which modern animal is most like the mystery fossil bones? **Wolf, Dolphin or Monkey**				
List at least 2 clues that helped you decide. Be specific. Consider features that aid in movement, habitat, what it might eat.				
Based on your findings, what modern animal do you the mystery fossil bones most likely are related to?				
SUMMARIZE: What did this mystery animal eat? How did it move? What type of environment do you think it lived in?				

Mystery Fossil: Walking into the Past

Analysis questions:

1) List three characteristics that differentiate whales from fish.

2) What type of scientist is Dr. Gingerich?

3) Where in the world was the fossil evidence of the "Walking Whale" discovered?

4) When Dr. Gingerich finds the fossilized "Walking Whale" skull, what characteristics make the fossilized skull similar to a wolf skull? What characteristics made the fossilized skull similar to a whale?

5) What scientific name did Dr. Gingerich gave the animal? What does this name mean?

6) How many whales does Dr. Gingerich eventually find?

7) What unique anatomical features does Dr. Gingerich find in within the *Basilosaurus?*

8) What is the nickname of the *Rodhocetus?* Describe how this animal lived

9) When Dr. Gingerich finds a *Rodhocetus* skeleton with hands and feet, what other anatomical feature does the skeleton show?

10) DNA and fossil evidence confirm that the whale's closest living relatives are artiodactyls. List four modern day examples of artiodactyls.