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**Geologic Time Unit – Essential Questions and Learning Goals**

**Goal:** Use the rules of RELATIVE DATING to determine relative time.

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**Question:** What are unconformities?

**Question:** How can unconformities be overcome using rock and fossil correlation?

 **Question:** How are absolute ages of rocks and fossils calculated?

**Goal:** Use radiometric dating (carbon dating) techniques to determine absolute ages for sample artifacts.

 **Question**: What is radioactivity?

 **Question**: How is radioactivity used to aid geologists in radiometric dating?

**Goal**: Determine byproducts of radioactive decay for alpha and beta decay when given starting radioactive isotope.

 **Question**: How is half-life calculated for isotopes that have half-lives of billions of years?

 **Question**: How is the Geologic Time Scale divided?

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