**Book F**

**Chapter 3 Lesson 5**

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO KNOW FOR THE SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT**

\*On Earth, there have been **FIVE major extinction events**.

\*An **extinction event** happens due to natural events or man-made events.

\***A scientist can prove that an extinction event happened by using the fossil record**. A layer of rock that does not have ANY fossils of living organisms (or very few fossils of living organisms) is strong evidence that an extinction event occurred.

\***Naturally occurring extinction events** include asteroid and meteor impacts, volcanic eruptions all over the world, earthquakes occurring all over the world, global changes in climate – the entire Earth cooling down or warming up.

\***Man-made extinction events** include pollution, overpopulation, habitat destruction, over- hunting and over-fishing.

\*The **Cambrian Explosion** happened about 570 – 530 million years ago. Scientists used the fossil record to discover that during this span of about 40 million years, there was an “explosion” of life. Thousands of different forms of animals and plants were discovered in the fossil record. Scientists DO NOT know what caused this event!