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12.001 Introduction to Geology
Spring 2008

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Paleontology assignment
Due Friday, February 29, 2008

Draw a picture of your fossil (to be done in class on Wednesday). Hand it in, along with some information about your fossil, including:

- Latin name
- Age
- Where it fits in the organization of living things: Kingdom, phylum, etc.
- Closest living relatives
- Two other facts about your fossil

These can be listed rather than written as prose.

If you use web sources, do your best to find really reputable sources. Be sure to cite them. You will likely need to do some library research in addition. The EAPS library is on the 2nd floor of the Green Building, and you may also want to look in the on-line search engine Web of Science (<http://www.isiknowledge.com/>) to find a scholarly paper or two. When reading scholarly papers, feel free to dig as long as you like into the methods and results sections, but you might just want to look at the introduction and abstract to get the more general information we are looking for here. Be sure to list references, and to cite them in the text where their information is used! If you did not come up with the idea yourself or if it is not “common knowledge,” then it must be cited. The easiest method of citation is to place the author and year of the source in parentheses after the sentence that pertains, as in:

Students who do not cite references properly will be marked down (Elkins-Tanton, 2007).