Relative Age of Rocks

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| What is the difference Relative Age and Absolute Age?  How does the position of rock layers tell age?  How do you determine relative age?  What are clues found in igneous rocks?  What are the clues from faults?  How do Gaps in the geologic record form?  How can you use fossils to date rocks?  What makes a fossil an index fossil?  What is a common index fossil? | Relative Age is in general and absolute age the exact age.  According to the law of Superposition the oldest layer is on the bottom.  To determine relative age geologist also extrusions and intrusions of igneous rock, faults, and gasps in the geologic record.  Extrusions and intrusions are always younger then the rocks around it.  The fault is always younger then the rock it cuts through.  An unconformity shows where rock layers were lost because of erosion.  Index fossils are useful because they tell the relative ages of the rock layers in which they occur.  An index fossil is a fossil that must be widely distributed and represent a type of organism.  ammonites are hard shelled animals who live in prehistoric seas. |