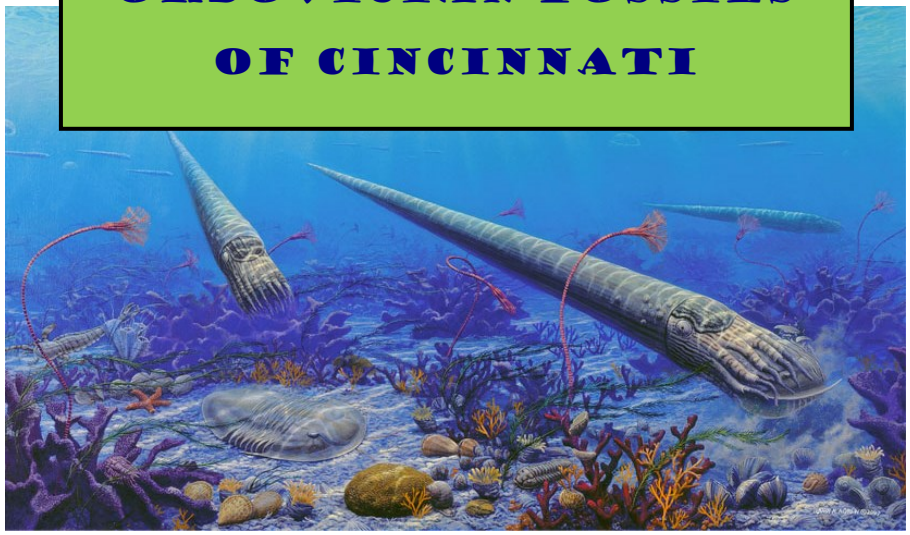
ORDOVICIAN FOSSILS OF CINCINNATI



Brachiopod (Brak-ee-o-pod) -
Brachiopods have a hinged shell with two parts, or valves. The bottom valve had a stalk that is used to attach the creature to the sea floor and move or burrow in the mud. The top valve held the feeding organ, called the lophophore. Efficient!

Bryozoans (Bry-oh-zoh-anz) -
These are moss animals, and are still everywhere in marine environments! These Bryozoans combined together to make “apartments” on the sea floor. Tiny organisms floating by in the water make up the Bryozoan’s dinner.

Horn Coral - These were singular corals. Their body was made up of body wall that surrounded a digestion cavity. At the top, waving in the water, were the tentacles that grabbed their food, pushed it down into the cavity to digest it, then pushed it back out the same way!

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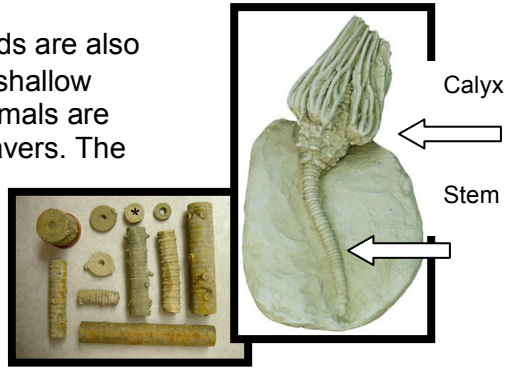
Ohio's State Fossil:

Trilobites (try-low-bites) - Trilobites have been extinct for 225 million years and are a great find for a fossil hunter! Some are the size of a jellyfish and others the size of a large insect. They are called *Tri*lobites because they have 3 lobes; a central lobe and 2 pleura (rib) lobes to the left and right. They are Arthropods; related to crabs, shrimps and insects.

Cephalopod (cef-a-low-pod) - Cephalopds are the squids and octopus of our oceans! Although the fossils we find are of extinct species, these smart predators still have living relatives that we see today. Cephalopods got very large and some have been found that were up to 7 feet in length!

Crinoid (Cry-noyd) - Crinoids are also known as the "sea lilies" of the shallow waters. The **stems** of these animals are stacked like Cheerios or Life Savers. The **Calyx** protected the soft parts of the plant, and had five arms (or multiples of fives) that reached up to snatch food.



Gastropod– These are mollusks, and can include anything from snails to slugs. They can live anywhere from the deepest part of the ocean to shallow mudflats or wetlands.

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