

Taxonomic Hierarchy

Kingdom -- Plants, Animals, Protists, Fungi, Archaeobacteria, Eubacteria

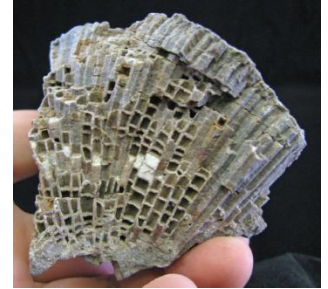
Phylum (i.e. Chordata or Cnidaria (coral))

Class (i.e. Mammalia or Favositida – colonial coral)

Order (i.e. Primate or Favositidae)

Genus (i.e. *Homo* or *Favosites*)

Species (i.e. *sapiens* or *hamiltoniae*)



Note that Genus and Species level entries are italicized and that all are capitalized except for species.

Note that numbers are placed beside the taxon rank which you are responsible for knowing for each fossil and it is not the same level even for fossils within the same phylum. This may be confusing at first, but stick with it, it will come. And when it does you will have a head start when you start biology in high school. The same hierarchy is used there.

Questions (check your Fossil List for answers:

- 1) What is the lowest common taxon for *Heliophyllum* and Scyphozoa?
- 2) What is the lowest common taxon for Archimedes and Gastropods?
- 3) Look up tabulate coral in your book or via google. Can you find a species of tabulate coral that is one your list and provide it's full taxonomic hierarchy?