Scientists around the world use a standardized system for classifying species of plants and animals. This so-called “Linnaean Classification System”—named for its inventor, Carl Linnaeus—has been used for over 250 years to help scientists communicate about biological diversity and, more recently, evolutionary relationships. In this system, closely related species are assigned to the same genus. Similarly, closely related genera are assigned to the same family. Likewise for families assigned to orders, orders assigned to classes, classes assigned to phyla, and phyla assigned to kingdoms.

Each one of the levels in the classification is a rank and members of the same rank are hypothesized to be more closely related to one another than to other groups at the same rank.

Kingdom Animalia

**CORALS - Cards P, W, L, Q, J**
Card P: A stony "starlet coral" that lived in shallow water and built reefs; fed by grabbing small bits of food that passed by using very small, stinging tentacles.
Phylum Cnidaria
   Class Anthozoa
      Order Scleractinia
         Family Siderastreidae
            Genus *Siderastrea*
               Species *Siderastrea pliocenica*

Card W: A stony coral that lived in shallow water and built reefs; fed by grabbing small bits of food that passed by using very small, stinging tentacles. This species survives to the present day.
   Family Meandrinidae
      Genus *Meandrina*
         Species *Meandrina meandrites*

Card L: A stony "brain coral" that lived in shallow water; fed by grabbing small bits of food that passed by using very small, stinging tentacles.
   Family Faviidae
      Genus *Solenastrea*
         Species *Solenastrea hyades*

Card Q: A stony "rose coral" that lived in shallow water, but did not form reefs; fed by grabbing small bits of food that passed by using very small, stinging tentacles. This species survives to the present day.
   Genus *Manicina*
      Species *Manicina areolata*

Card J: A coral that lived in shallow water and encrusted (covered) the shells of snails; fed by grabbing small bits of food that passed by using very small, stinging tentacles.
   Family Rhizangiidae
      Genus *Septastrea*
         Species *Septastrea marylandica*

**ECHINODERMS - Cards F, C, D**
Card F: A "purple-spined" sea urchin (most fossils are missing their spines) that lived in shallow water on the sea floor and mostly ate algae (herbivore). This species survives to the present day.
Phylum Echinodermata
  Class Echinoidea (sea urchins and sand dollars)
    Order Arbacoidea
    Family Arbaciidae
    Genus Arbacia
    Species Arbacia punctulate

Card C: A sand dollar that lived in shallow water and spent much of its time burrowed in the sand; fed on decaying matter in the sand (detritivore).
  Order Clypeasteroida
  Family Mellitidae
  Genus Mellita
  Species Mellita aclinensis

Card D: A sea urchin that lived on the sea floor and had a shell covered in short spines.
  Order Cassiduloida
  Family Cassidulidae
  Genus Rhyncholampas
  Species Rhyncholampas evergladensis

MOLLUSCS- BIVALVES- Cards A, O, M, B, K, S

Card A: An ark clam that captured food particles from the passing water (suspension feeder).
  Phylum Mollusca
  Class Bivalvia
  Order Arcida
  Family Arcidae
  Genus Anadara
  Species Anadara aequalitas

Card O: A coquina clam that lived in huge numbers on the seafloor in shallow water; captured food particles from the passing water (suspension feeder).
  Order Imparidentia
  Family Donacidae
  Genus Donax
  Species Donax fossor

Card M: A spiny jewel box clam that lived on the seafloor; captured food particles from the passing water (suspension feeder). This species survives to the present day.
  Family Chamidae
  Genus Arcinella
  Species Arcinella cornuta

Card B: A jewel box clam that lived on the seafloor; captured food particles from the passing water (suspension feeder).
  Genus Chama
  Species Chama heilprini

Card K: An egg cockle that lived on soft sediments on the seafloor and were able to move short distances using a powerful "foot"; captured food particles from the passing water (suspension feeder). This species survives to the present day.
Family Cardiidae
  Genus *Laevicardium*
  Species *Laevicardium mortoni*

Card S: A lucine clam that lived buried deep in the sediment; symbiotic bacteria allowed them to survive in habitats with little oxygen. Captured food particles from the passing water (suspension feeder).

Family Lucinidae
  Genus *Anodontia*
  Species *Anodontia santarosana*

MOLLUSCS- GASTROPODS- Cards G, H, R, U, X, E, T, V, I, N

Card G: Sundial snail that fed on corals (carnivore). This species survives to the present day.
Phylum Mollusca
  Class Gastropoda
  Order Heterobranchia
  Family Architectonicidae
  Genus *Architectonica*
  Species *Architectonica nobilis*

Card H: Moon snail that crawled on the seafloor and hunted snails and clams; attacked its prey by drilling small holes in their shells (carnivore).
  Order Littorinimorpha
  Family Naticidae
  Genus *Natica*
  Species *Natica precursor*

Card R: Conch that fed on algae (herbivore). This species survives to the present day.
  Family Strombidae
  Genus *Strombus*
  Species *Strombus pugilis*

Card U: Hat snail that lived above the seafloor and fed on food particles from the passing water (suspension feeder). This species survives to the present day.
  Family Calyptraeidae
  Genus *Calyptraea*
  Species *Calyptraea centralis*

Card X: Hat snail that lived above the seafloor and fed on food particles from the passing water (suspension feeder). This species survives to the present day.
  Genus *Trochita*
  Species *Trochita floridana*

Card E: Rock snail that crawled on the seafloor and hunted snails and clams; attacked its prey by drilling small holes in their shells (carnivore).
  Order Caenogastropoda
  Family Muricidae
  Genus *Hexaplex*
  Species *Hexaplex hertweckorum*
Card T: Turret snail that mostly rested on the seafloor and gathered food particles from the passing seawater (suspension feeder).

   Family Turritellidae
   Genus *Turritella*
   Species *Turritella magnasulcus*

Card V: Whelk that hunted clams and used its shell to wedge open their shells (carnivore).

   Family Buccinidae
   Genus *Sinistrofulgur*
   Species *Sinistrofulgur contrarium*

Card I: Cone snail that crawled on the seafloor and hunted and ate worms. This species survives to the present day.

   Family Conidae
   Genus *Conasprella*
   Species *Conasprella jaspidea*

Card N: Olive snail that burrowed through the sand and fed on carrion (scavenger).

   Family Olividae
   Genus *Americoliva*
   Species *Americoliva edwardsi*