

Fossil of a trilobite

Fossil of a trilobite

The structure of a trilobite, including the antennae and legs, can be seen in the Burgess Shale, a rock formation found in the Canadian Rockies in 1909.

This trilobite lived some 505 million years ago. Trilobites were a class of ocean-dwelling arthropods that first emerged some 540 million years ago and became extinct at the end of the Permian period 250 million years ago. Trilobites had a hard exoskeleton made of minerals, and these exoskeletons were frequently preserved as fossils. Scientists have identified some 17,000 species of trilobites from the fossil record.

The Burgess Shale contains a vast fossil record that provided the first glimpse into the diverse animal life of the Cambrian Period (542-488 million years ago).



Usage Statement:

GNU General Public License

You may share exact copies of this work as long as you credit the original author and provide a link to the [license](#) ^[1].

Changing the item is not allowed under this license.

Source URL:<https://www.ncpedia.org/media/fossil-trilobite>

Links

[1] <https://www.gnu.org/licenses/gpl-3.0.en.html>