

Fossil Factory

Rocks of Grand Canyon tell the story of life that lived in ancient worlds.

Goals

- The audience will better understand the life of the Paleozoic.
- The audience will be able to identify a fossil and describe the living animal.
- The audience will better appreciate the unique geology of Grand Canyon.

Props

- Canyon geology blocks
- Large paleoenvironment posters
- Fossils and ancient life posters
- Clay

Outline

- I. Introduction
- II. How old is old? (geologic time)
 - A. How geologists divide up time
 - B. What was the Paleozoic?
- III. What do the rocks tell us?
 - A. Ancient environments
 - B. What are fossils?
 - C. What lived in Grand Canyon?
- IV. Visit the Fossil Factory
 - A. Pick a fossil
 - B. Bring it to life in clay
 - C. Photograph your creature: it must return to clay
- V. Explorations: Bright Angel Point Trail



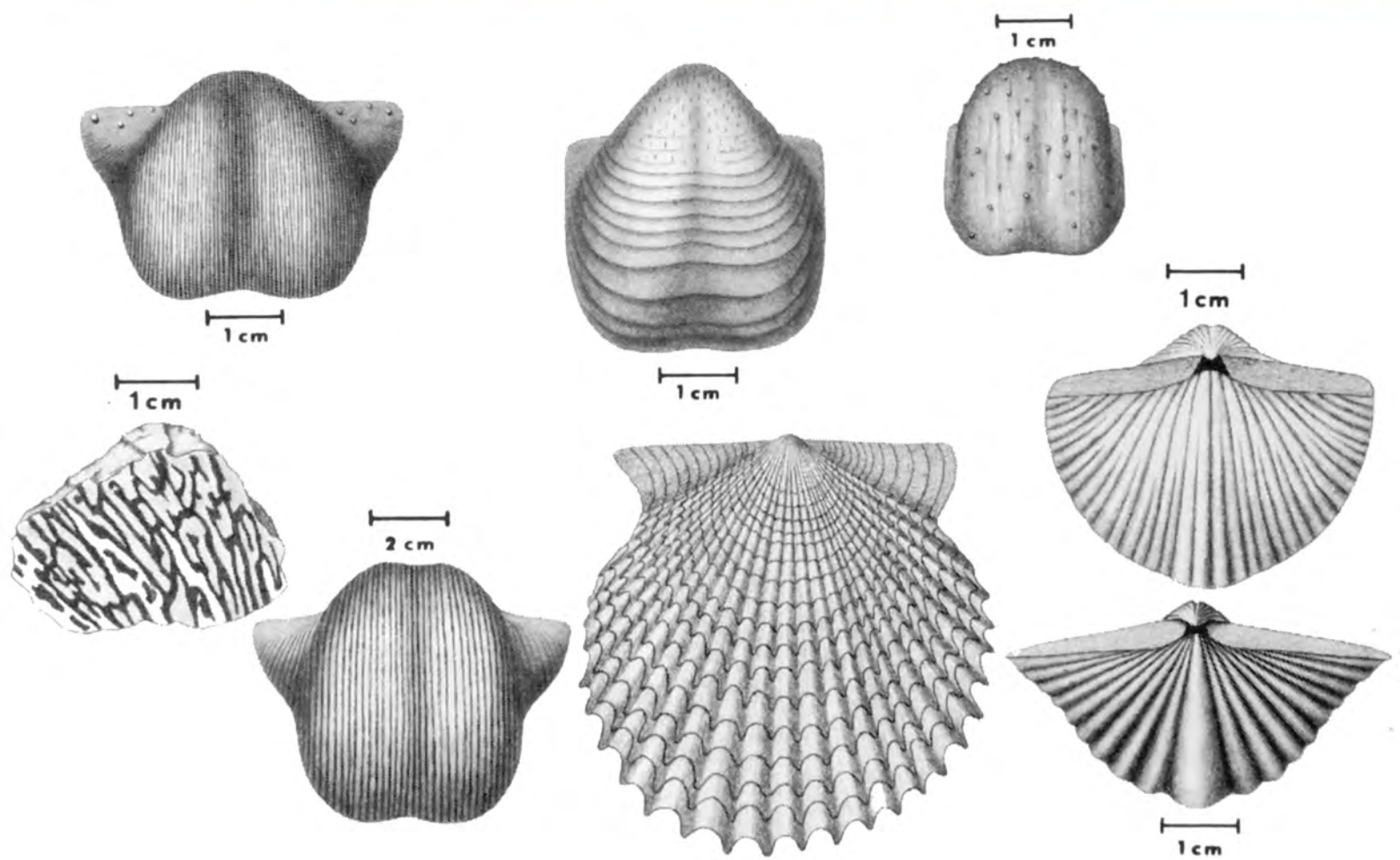
explosion of life

trilobite



trace fossils

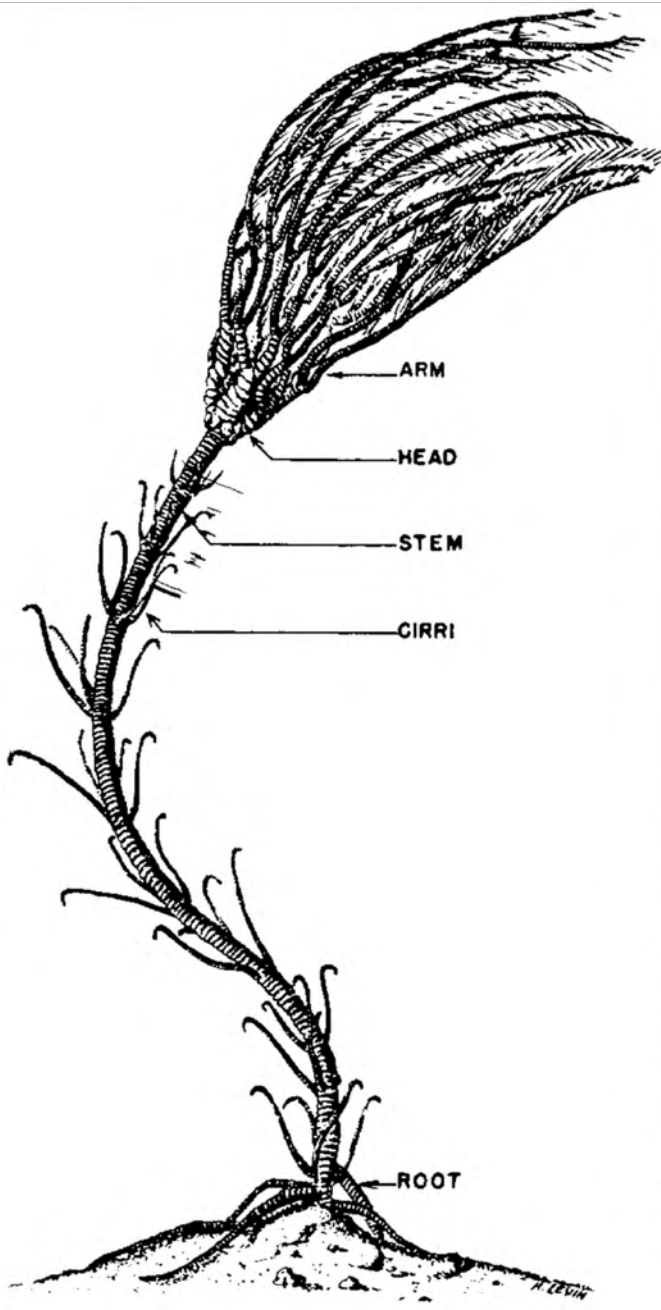
worm burrows



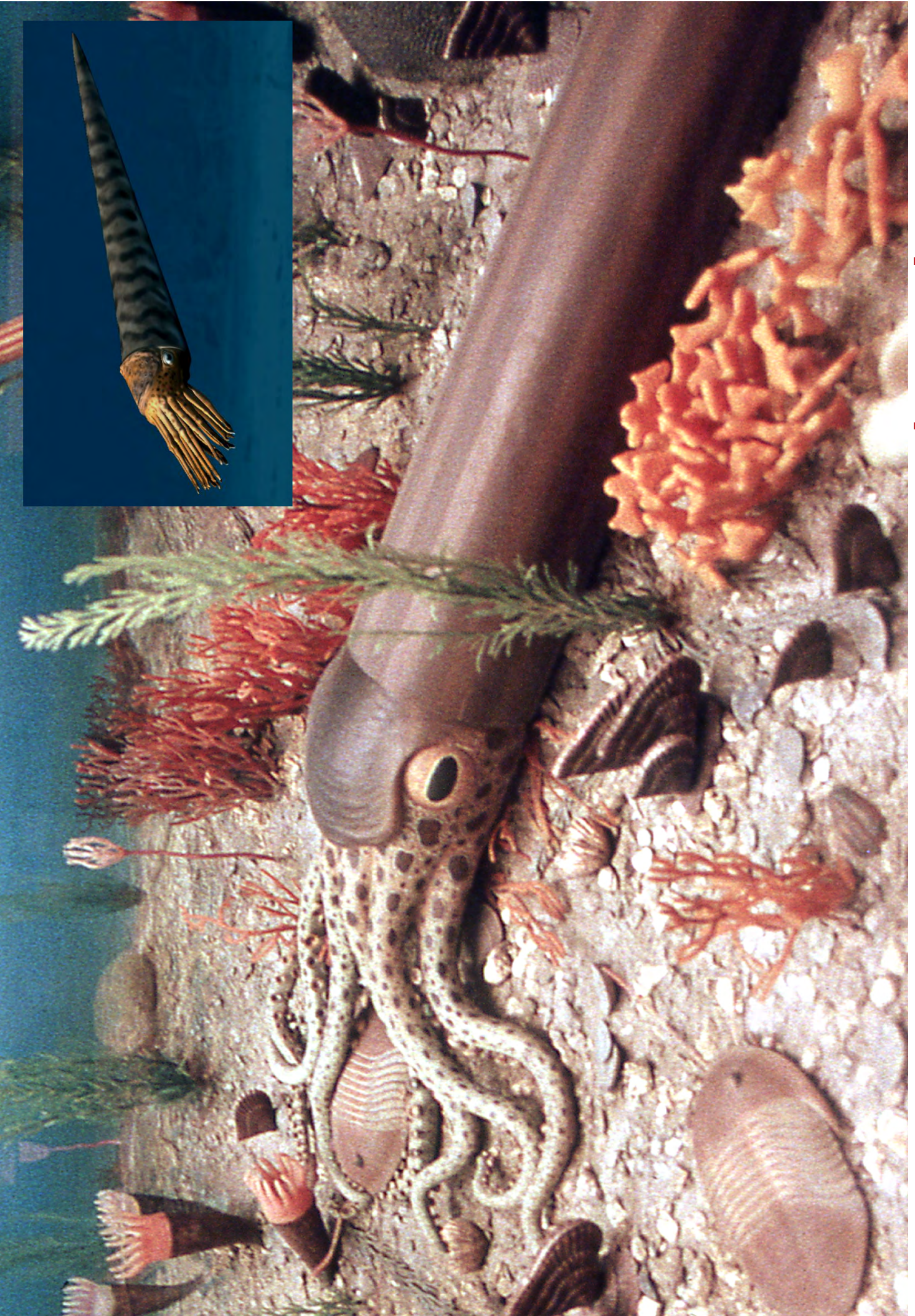
brachiopod shellfish



crinoid



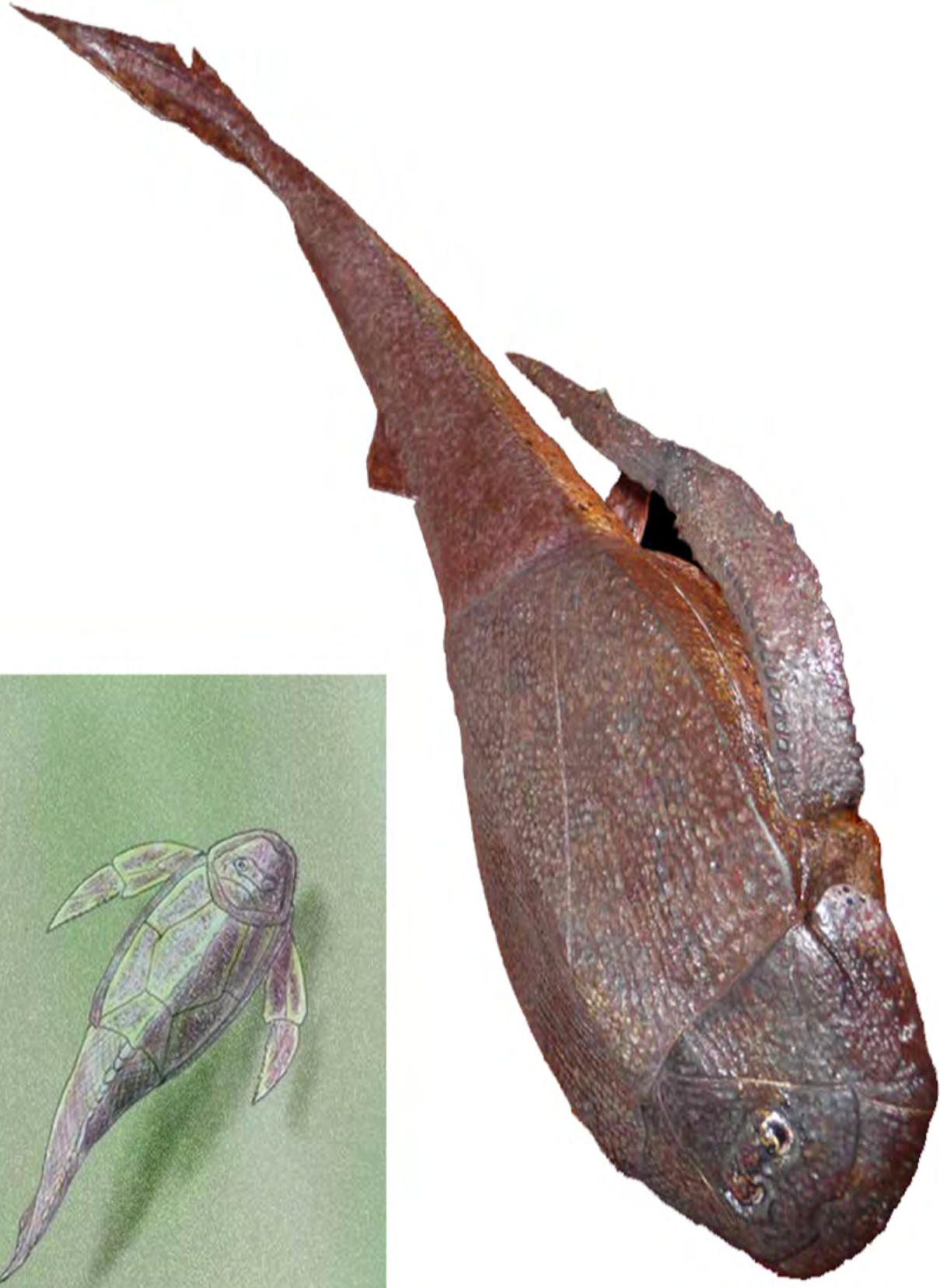
nautiloid



squid relative

jawed fish

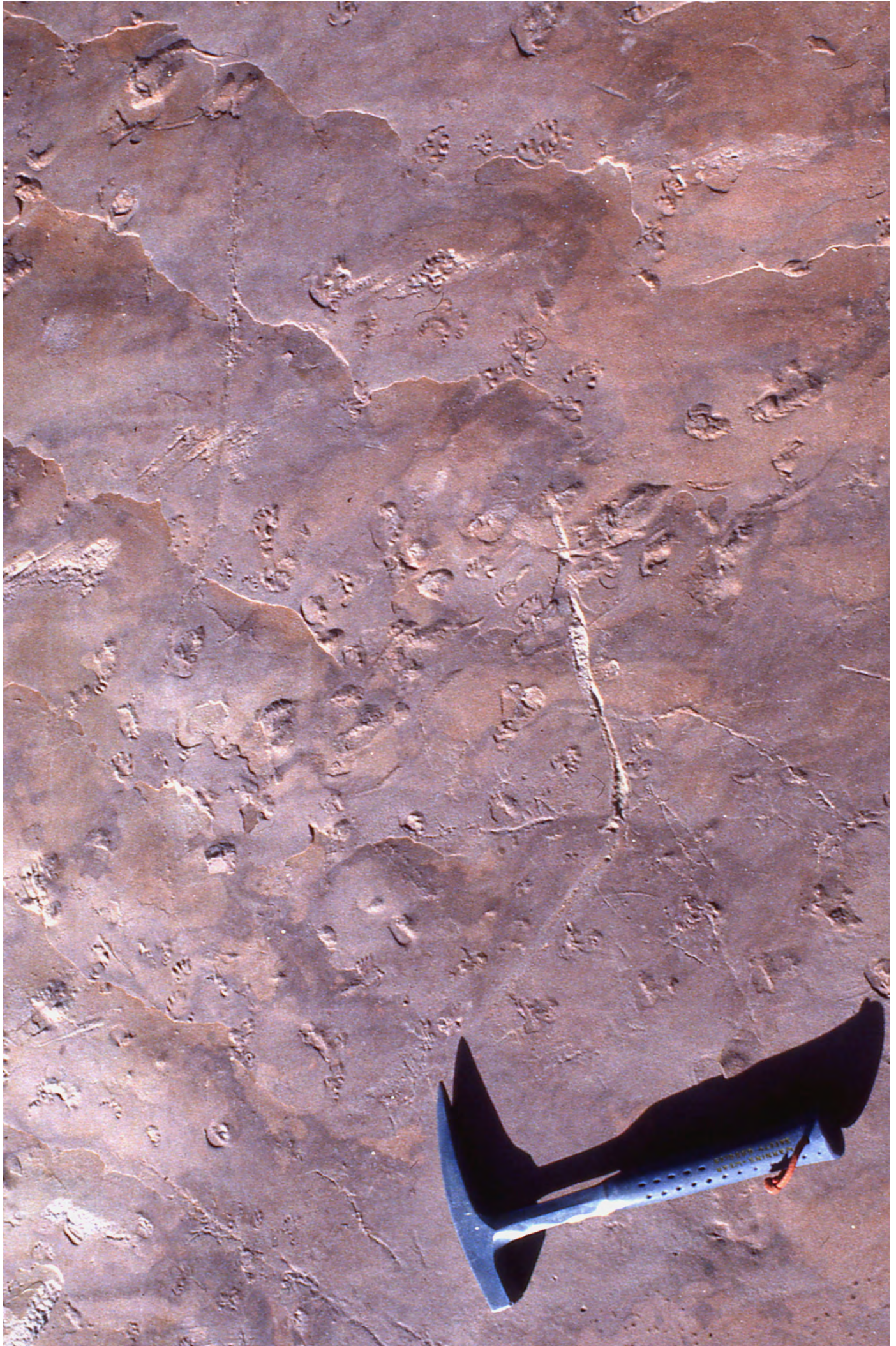
placoderm



seed fern



tracks



what made them?