



Grade 2, Pre-Visit Activity, "Fascinating Fossils"

Name: _____

Fascinating Fossils

Vocabulary Words

Instructions: Review the vocabulary words, and then complete the activity on the other side of this worksheet.

- 1) **Fossils** – Remains of ancient life that have been turned to stone
- 2) **Body Fossil** – Actual parts of plants and animals that have been turned to stone (i.e. bone, shells, leaves)
- 3) **Coprolite** – Fossilized dinosaur dung
- 4) **Fossilization** – Process by which the remains of ancient living things are turned to rock
- 5) **Paleontologist** – A scientist who studies fossils and ancient life
- 6) **Sedimentary Rock** – Rock made of layers of tightly packed sand and clay
- 7) **Sandstone** – A type of sedimentary rock that is made of sand
- 8) **Trace Fossil** – A sign that a plant or animal once lived in an area (i.e. footprints, coprolite)
- 9) **Porous** – Full of tiny holes that water, air, and light can pass through
- 10) **Inclusion Fossil** – Remains of animals and plants that have been preserved in the sap of plants
- 11) **Mineralization** – to convert into a mineral substance; to fill with a mineral substance



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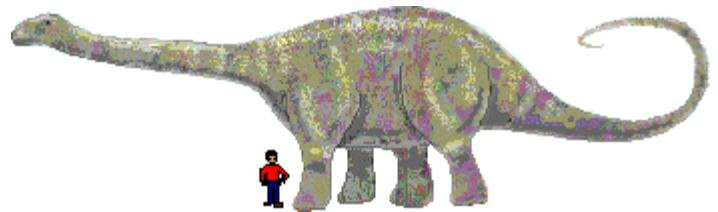


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Name: _____

Instructions: Fill in the blanks, using "Fascinating Fossils" vocabulary words.

Jane, a famous p _____ t,
was hiking in the Colorado mountains searching for f _____,
which are remains of ancient life that have turned to stone. All of a sudden the
ground shook beneath her. Jane ran over a hill and saw that there had been a
huge landslide. She went over to look at the piles of rocks and saw layers of
s _____ s _____, a type of sedimentary rock. Fossils are
found in sandstone, so Jane was excited to search through the rocks! Just as she
began to dig, she found fossilized bones. The bones had turned to stone through
a process called s s _____. Jane
saw that the fossils belonged to an
Apatosaurus. These bones are
examples of b _____
_____ i l _____, which
are fossilized parts of plants and animals. Jane hiked further up the mountain
and found fossilized dinosaur dung, called c _____.
She also found a huge footprint, which is an example of a t _____
f _____. Jane carefully removed the fossils from the rocks
and donated them to a museum.



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Grade 2, In-Class Activity, "Fascinating Fossils"

Name: _____

Instructions: Use this answer sheet to identify the objects at each of the stations. Circle the correct answers in A, B, and D, and draw a picture of your answer. For question C, fill in the blanks with the correct answer.

FOSSIL QUEST

A. This fossil is:

- 1) a plant
- 2) an animal bone
- 3) dung

B. This IMPRESSION is a:

- 1) leaf
- 2) fish
- 3) bird

C. This station has three objects. Write what each object is in the spaces provided.

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

D. In which rock would you look for a fossil?

- 1) mudstone
- 2) sandstone
- 3) breccia
- 4) quartz

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Grade 2, Post-Visit Activity, "Fascinating Fossils"

Name: _____

FOSSILIZATION

Instructions: Color the pictures on the attached sheet of paper. Then cut the squares along the dotted lines. Paste them on this sheet in the correct order of the fossilization process.

First Step	Second Step
Third Step	Last Step

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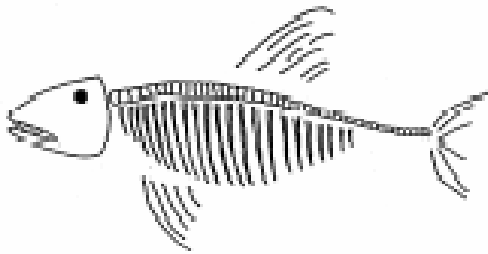
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Grade 2, Post-Visit Activity, "Fascinating Fossils"

Fossilization



Bones soak up the minerals



Body fossil



Skin and muscles decompose



Dead organism