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
**Instructions:** Fill in the blanks, using “Fascinating Fossils” vocabulary words.

Jane, a famous ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ t, was hiking in the Colorado mountains searching for ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ____, 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 ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ____, 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 ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ____. Jane saw that the fossils belonged to an Apatosaurus. These bones are examples of ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ i ___ l ____, which are fossilized parts of plants and animals. Jane hiked further up the mountain and found fossilized dinosaur dung, called ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ____. She also found a huge footprint, which is an example of a ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ f ___ ___ ___ ___ ____. Jane carefully removed the fossils from the rocks and donated them to a museum.
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
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Step</th>
<th>Second Step</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Third Step</th>
<th>Last Step</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Grade 2, Post-Visit Activity, “Fascinating Fossils”

Fossilization

Bones soak up the minerals

Body fossil

Skin and muscles decompose

Dead organism