

Fossils

Fossils are the remains of organisms and evidence of past life _____ in rock. The word fossil comes from the Latin 'fossilis', meaning 'dug up from the ground'.

Fossils are the _____ for the existence of once-living animals and plants and may be either the preserved _____ of an organism or evidence of its activity. A fossil is any evidence of _____ life naturally preserved within the materials that make up the Earth – usually sediments/sedimentary rocks, but also tar, natural resins and _____.

_____, people who study fossils, divide them into two major _____: body fossils and trace fossils.

Body fossils are the fossilised remains of an animal or plant, like _____, shells and leaves.

Trace fossils are evidence of animal or plant _____ that do not preserve part of the animal or plant. These can be _____, burrows, gnaw marks in _____, and even poo.

Fossils provide us with a range of clues about life in the _____. They can tell us about animal diets and their sizes. A bite mark in a _____ or a bone is a clue that some animals were being _____, or that animals fought, so they can even help us to learn about behaviour. Fossils that were found in the same rock in the same place together can provide evidence about _____ and food chains.

Fossils provide evidence that helps us to learn about life on Earth in the very distant past. The _____ known fossil is _____ 3.6 billion years old. _____ the evolution and _____ of different animals and plants by looking at fossils can provide clues about what might happen in the _____ to plants and animals alive today. Along with _____, fossils help us to learn about the _____ and how it has _____ through time.

remains	activity	extinction	environment	preserved	types	ancient	changed	approximately	oldest	past
evidence	footprints	shell	habitats	studying	future	bones	predated	palaeontologists	ice	rocks

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Cloze Activity – Fossils – Genius

Fossils

Fossils are the remains of organisms and evidence of past life **preserved** in rock. The word fossil comes from the Latin 'fossilis', meaning 'dug up from the ground'.

Fossils are the **evidence** for the existence of once-living animals and plants and may be either the preserved **remains** of an organism or evidence of its activity. A fossil is any evidence of **ancient** life naturally preserved within the materials that make up the Earth – usually sediments/sedimentary rocks, but also tar, natural resins and **ice**.

Palaeontologists, people who study fossils, divide them into two major **types**: body fossils and trace fossils.

Body fossils are the fossilised remains of an animal or plant, like bones, shells and leaves.

Trace fossils are evidence of animal or plant **activity** that do not preserve part of the animal or plant. These can be **footprints**, burrows, gnaw marks in **bones**, and even poo.

Fossils provide us with a range of clues about life in the **past**. They can tell us about animal diets and their sizes. A bite mark in a **shell** or a bone is a clue that some animals were being **predated**, or that animals fought, so they can even help us to learn about behaviour. Fossils that were found in the same rock in the same place together can provide evidence about **habitats** and food chains.

Fossils provide evidence that helps us to learn about life on Earth in the very distant past. The **oldest** known fossil is **approximately** 3.6 billion years old. **Studying** the evolution and **extinction** of different animals and plants by looking at fossils can provide clues about what might happen in the **future** to plants and animals alive today. Along with **rocks**, fossils help us to learn about the **environment** and how it has **changed** through time.

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