

Objectives	Finding Fossils	Extra Information
<p>L.O:</p> <p>To Understand What Fossils Are.</p>	<p>GUIDANCE – This experiment involves using an oven and it’s recommended that the final step is done separately from the lessons for safety reasons. It’s also recommended that this lesson is performed at the beginning of the day so that the results of the lesson are ready before the end of the day.</p> <p>STARTING ACTIVITY – (10 minutes)</p> <p>GROUP DISCUSSION – Ask the class if they know what Fossils are, acknowledge any reference to Dinosaurs or bones found in the ground.</p> <p>Tell the class that Fossils are the remains or impressions of Prehistoric Organic Matter (plants and animals) and that they are formed when a plant or animal dies in a watery environment and is quickly buried under mud or silt.</p> <p>Explain that there are actually 4 types of Fossil:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Mold Fossils - These are Fossils formed by Organic Matter being pressed against stone, leaving an impression, but the Organic Matter decays or is displaced over time. ▶ Cast Fossils - These are Fossils that first formed as Molds, but the impression was later filled in with minerals that turn into solid rock. ▶ Trace Fossils - These are similar to Molds but are Molds of traces that an organism left behind whilst still alive, for example footprints or Prehistoric dung. ▶ True Form - These are Fossils similar to Casts, but instead of minerals filling the mold, the original Organic Matter goes through a process called Petrification and is turned to stone. <p>Explain to the class that they will now be performing an experiment to create their own Mold Fossils.</p> <p>MAIN TEACHING – Finding Fossils (45 minutes)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Mix the salt and flour together in a bowl. 2 Mix the water in slowly whilst stirring until a soft dough forms. 	<p>Materials Required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 125g of Salt ▶ 250g of Flour ▶ 180ml of Water <p>(The above is enough for 6 fossils)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Dino toy (or any other toy) <p>Key Words:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Dinosaur ▶ Fossil ▶ Prehistoric ▶ Organic Matter ▶ Molds ▶ Casts ▶ Trace ▶ True Form ▶ Archaeologists <p>Success Criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ I understand what a fossil is. ▶ I understand that there are several types of fossil. ▶ I know the different types of fossil and how they may be used by archaeologists.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">③ Make small balls by rolling small amounts of dough in your hands, then flatten them. You want to make them roughly the size and shape of a cookie, but don't eat them.④ Press your dino toys onto these cookies making impressions of their feet or sides.⑤ Bake your fossils at 200 degrees until they dry out. This should take approximately 1 hour but can take longer for thicker fossils. <p>PLENARY - (5 minutes) Explain that everything we know about Dinosaurs and Prehistoric life is from Archaeologists looking at fossils.</p> <p>GROUP DISCUSSION – Ask the class if they can think of different things we can learn from different Fossils.</p> <p>Explain that Trace Fossils like footprints can tell us how big an animal was, or Prehistoric dung might give us clues as to what they may have eaten. Or finding a lot of Fossils in one location can give us clues as to how the animal may have lived e.g. Did it live in groups? Did it hunt alone?</p> <p>Tell the class that Archaeologists act like detectives and collect all of these clues to work out what Prehistoric life was like.</p>	