



## **Fossil Finders** EYFS/KS1 duration: 1 hour

Discover prehistoric worlds through playful and imaginative games and activities. Students will make a plaster cast fossil, search for fossils in dig-pits and find out about some of the amazing creatures that once roamed the Earth.

### **Key Words:**

Fossils. Dinosaurs. Palaeontology. Fossil dig pit. Fossil casting. Time. Earth

### **Learning objectives**

Recognise that long ago the world looked very different to today, and that many living things looked different too  
Understand that we can learn about these 'long ago' living things by looking at fossils  
Understand that fossils are the preserved remains or traces of living things that lived long ago  
Appreciate that we usually find fossils in rocks  
Understand how some fossils are formed from a mould and a cast  
Experience how everyday materials such as plasticine to make a mould and plaster used to make a cast  
Understand that dinosaurs were not all the same. Some were very small, and some were very large  
Identify people who look for and study fossils as palaeontologists  
Recognise that some fossils look like animals living today, to which they are related

### **Content**

Investigate fossils and other artefacts using their sense of touch  
Examine fossils, think about how old they are and how they might have formed  
Search for buried fossils like a palaeontologist  
Use props to model the relative size of some dinosaurs  
Think about what ancient animals might have sounded like  
Make a plaster cast of a fossil

### **Curriculum Links:**

**EYFS: Communication and language.** Listening and attention. Understanding and speaking

**Physical Development.** Moving and handling

**Personal, social and emotional development.** Self-confidence and self-awareness. Managing feelings and behaviour. Making relationships

**Mathematics.** Shape, space and measures

**Understanding the World.** The world

**Expressive arts and design.** Being imaginative

**Science: Working scientifically.** Observing closely, using simple equipment. Identifying and classifying. Using their observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions

**Year 1: Animals, including humans.** Identify and name common animals that are carnivores, herbivores and omnivores

**Year 1: Everyday materials.** Identifying and naming everyday materials – rock, plaster, shell

**Year 2: Living things and their habitats.** Explore and compare the differences between things that are living, dead, and things that have never been alive

### **Potential Hazards and accessibility**

Students will be using dental plaster and sand pits, and handling small fossils

### **Related activities**

**Exhibits** All About Us

**Workshops** Jungle Senses