



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

Workshops Jungle Senses