we the curious
Workshop

Fossil Finders EYFS/KS1

Duration: 1 hour, max capacity 35 students
Discover prehistoric worlds through playful and imaginative 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
Many living things that lived a long time ago and now extinct
Understand that fossils are the preserved remains or traces of living things that lived long ago
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
Identify people who look for and study fossils as palaeontologists

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
Make a plaster cast of a fossil
Think about what ancient animals might have sounded like

Curriculum Links:
EYFS: Communication and language. Listening, Attention and Understanding, Speaking
Physical Development. Moving and handling
Personal, social and emotional development. Self-Regulation, Managing Self, Building Relationships, Gross Motor Skills, Fine Motor Skills
Understanding the World. Past and Present
Expressive arts and design. Creating with Materials

KS1 Science: Working scientifically. Asking simple questions and recognising that they can be answered in different ways. Observing closely, using simple equipment. Identifying and classifying. Using their observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions
Year 1: Everyday materials. Identifying and name a variety of everyday materials. Describe the simple physical properties of a variety of everyday materials
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 and shells