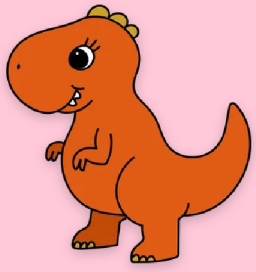
SCIENCE · ROCKS, SOIL AND FOSSILS · GRADES 3–5

How a Fossil Forms

Number the five steps that turn a dead animal into a fossil, then draw a fossil you would like to find.



Name: _____ **Date:** _____

A **fossil** is what is left of a plant or animal that lived long ago, kept in rock. Most fossils form on the bottom of a sea or lake.

1. Write 1 to 5 to put the steps in order.

- [ ] Mud and sand slowly cover the body.
- [ ] The rock wears away and someone finds the fossil.
- [ ] An animal dies and sinks to the bottom of the sea.
- [ ] More layers press down and turn to rock over millions of years.
- [ ] The soft parts rot away. The bones and shell stay.

2. Draw a fossil you would like to find.

3. What can a fossil tell us about the past?

_____

_____

_____

_____

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