



SfS Away from the Classroom!

ES10: Fossils (Recommended for Grades 3-8)

Please use the following resources to learn about fossils.

Watch this Video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=87E8bQrX4Wg> and https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tjhDV_GzTM8&t=42

Answer these questions:

- What happened to the dinosaur's body after it died? What did the bones turn into?
- Why are 99% of the fossils we find from marine animals?
- What types of fossils are there besides the ones that were made of bones?
- After watching the second video, what surprised you about the paleontologists and how they do their job?

Activities: Follow these directions to make your own cast of an imprint fossil!

You will need:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Play Doh• White liquid glue	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Magnifying glass (optional)• Paint (optional)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Small items like shells, keys, buttons, coins, twigs, leaves, etc...
--	--	--

1. Place the Play-Doh out on a hard surface and flatten it out with the palm of your hand.
2. Press one of the small items into the Play-Doh to make an impression of the object.
3. Pull the object out of the Play-Doh very gently. This is a model of an imprint fossil.
4. Observe the shape and texture of the imprint of the item left in the playdoh.
 - a. How much detail you can see? Use a magnifying glass if you have one!
5. Squeeze white glue into the impression of the object, filling it completely.
6. Allow the glue to dry in the Play-Doh overnight.
7. Gently pull the glue fossil out of the Play-Doh. This is a cast of your 'fossil'.
8. Observe the cast, notice the details.
 - a. Compare it to the original item and the imprint.
 - b. Do they all look the same? How are they different?
9. Repeat with other small items.

Optional: Paint your cast fossils and save them!



Make observations & use Claims, Evidence, and Reasoning!

1. **Claim:** Making a cast of an imprint fossil requires skill and precision.

- **Evidence:**

- **Reasoning:**

2. **Claim:** Cast fossils and imprint fossils look different from each other and the original item.

- **Evidence:**

- **Reasoning:**