



Maidstone Museum Learning Team

Dinosaurs and Fossils Workshop Information Sheet

Useful information for before, during and after your workshop.

Workshop overview; 1 hour in length

Find out how fossils are formed and what we can learn from them about life when dinosaurs walked the earth. Children take part in a role play telling the story of how a dinosaur becomes a fossil. They have the opportunity to handle and look closely at a variety of real fossils and bones, and investigate like a palaeontologist. This is a very practical, hands on session.

Activities include roleplay, handling, sketching, measuring. Opportunities are given for questioning, discussion, imagining.

Key Vocabulary and glossary;

Fossil; any remains, impression, or trace of a living thing of a former geologic age, as a skeleton, footprint, etc.	Volcano; an opening in the earth's crust through which melted rock, ash, and gases are forced out.
Vertebrate; part of the spine	Swamp; wet spongy land
Herbivore; plant eater	Heat; the degree of hotness or temperature
Carnivore; meat eater	Pressure; the amount of force put on something
Omnivore; plant and meat eater	Time; the passing of minutes, days, weeks, years, and centuries.
Palaeontologist; someone who studies animal and plant fossils for information about life in the past.	Teeth; one of the hard, white, bony objects that grow in rows in the jaws of people and animals.
Bone; the hard structure that forms the skeleton	Claws; thin, sharp, curved nail on the foot of an animal

Curriculum links;

National Curriculum;

KS1 History; events beyond living memory that are significant nationally or globally

KS2 Y3 Science; Rocks; describe in simple terms how fossils are formed when things that have lived are trapped within rock



International Primary Curriculum;

Milepost 2; History - Footprints from the Past
Milepost 3; Science – Look Hear!

Cornerstones;

EYFS; Which was the Biggest Dinosaur?
Y1; Dinosaur Planet
Y3; Predator!

Key galleries to look in;

Dinosaurs and Fossils

Craft workshops to accompany main workshop. Up to 1 hour in length

Clay craft workshop – children have the opportunity to make clay fossils and dinosaurs, based on what they have seen and learned about in the main workshop.

Arts Award – Discover in a Day

This is a 3-4 session day that covers the process of how fossils are formed, role play, and practical art opportunities. More details available separately, on request.

Additional website links;

<http://www.nhm.ac.uk/discover/dino-directory/index.html>

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/subjects/dinosaurs/>

<http://www.kids-dinosaurs.com/>

<http://www.dinodictionary.com/>