

Zedua Experiments

Title: Make Your Own Fossil

What is fossil?

The remains or impression of a prehistoric plant or animal embedded in rock and preserved in petrified form.

Challenge: Can you Make Your Own Fossil?

Materials Required:

1. Plasticine
2. 2 paper cups
3. An object that you would like to use as the fossilized impression
4. Plaster of Paris
5. Water
6. Rolling pin

Procedure:

1. Use a rolling pin and flatten a ball of plasticine until it is about 2 cm thick while making sure the top is smooth.
2. Place the plasticine inside a paper cup with the smooth side facing up. Carefully press the object you want to fossilize into the plasticine till it is partially buried.
3. Carefully remove the object from the plasticine. Make sure an impression of the object is left behind.
4. Pour half a cup of plaster of paris into the other paper cup, mix it with water until the mixture is smooth. Leave it for around two minutes.
5. After the mixture is thickened pour it on top of the plasticine in the other cup. Leave the mixture until the plaster dries.
6. When the plaster has completely dried, tear away the sides of the paper cup and take out the plasticine and plaster.
7. Store it in a warm dry place and enjoy your very own fossil.

What's happening?

Fossils are most useful records of the past. In your case you left behind an impression of an object you own. But fossils found by scientists around the world can date back to the time of dinosaurs or even before that. These fossils help the paleontologists (the name of scientists who study these types of fossils) to study what life might have been like millions of years ago.



Source: pintrest