



FOSSILIZED FEMUR

The femur is the upper bone in the back legs of animals. A femur contains a “ball” that fits into the hip socket. This femur is from an animal that we call an oreodont. It is extinct. There is nothing like it today.

Oreodonts are related to sheep, goats, and camels. They lived in herds with other large animals such as early horses. Some scientists believe that some of these oreodonts may have lived in burrows and others may have climbed trees.

This fossil was discovered in a rock formation known as the White River Group. It contains the rocks that form colorful striped patterns.