



AMMONITES

Ammonites are an extinct group of animals. Extinct means they no longer exist. Can you think of other animal that no longer exists? The reason we know about ammonites today is because we can see them as fossils.

Ammonites lived a long, long time ago. They became extinct about the same time that dinosaurs became extinct.

The fossil you see is actually the shell of the ammonite. The animal that lived in these shells had a soft body. It had large eyes and tentacles that it used to capture food. They are related to octopuses, squids, and cuttlefish.

Scientists get excited when they find ammonites. Ammonite fossils help them figure out the age of the rocks where they are found.

Lots of ammonites can be found in an area of the U.S. from Texas to Canada.