



FOSSILS

Fossils are the preserved remains of ancient life. There are many types of fossils. One type of fossil is called ancient remains. These are the actual bodies of ancient life. An example of this would be an insect found as a fossil inside a stone.

Body fossils are another kind of fossil. An ancient fish can be a body fossil. Bones are also body fossils.

Trace fossils show us something about the life of an ancient animal or person. It doesn't show us any body parts. Dinosaur tracks are trace fossils.

The last kind of fossil is a chemofossil. Petroleum and coal are chemofossils.

Fossils are found in sedimentary rock. This kind of rock builds up layer upon layer. It traps and preserves animals, plants and footprints within the layers of sediment.

Fossils are found when the rocks that hold them are eroded. Geologists use tools as large as giant hammers and as small as toothbrushes and toothpicks to remove fossils from the rock.