

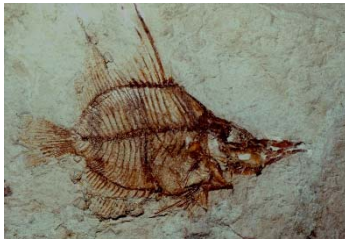


Fossil Tales - Teacher Notes

There are many great books, both fiction and non-fiction, about fossils and dinosaur bones - a brief list is shown below:

- Fossils Tell Stories by Yu-ri Kim / Australian Geographic (ISBN: 9781742458267)
- Return of the Dinosaurs by Bronwyn Houston (ISBN: 9781925360370) - a great story based in Broome where dinosaur footprints are preserved in the rocks.
- Stone Girl Bone Girl: The Story of Mary Anning of Lyme Regis by Laurence Anholt (ISBN: 9781845077006) - the story of the little girl who discovered a lot of dinosaur fossils near her home.
- Digging up Dinosaurs by Aliko (ISBN: 9780064450782)
- Fossils Tell of Long Ago by Aliko (ISBN: 9780062382078)
- How the Dinosaur Got to the Museum by Jessie Hartland (Illustrations) (ISBN: 1609050908)

After being inspired by these stories, students may like to come up with their own dinosaur names. The 'non-dinosaur' stories are also a great way to illustrate to students that not all fossils are dinosaur bones and that plants can also be fossilised.



Fossils are formed when an organism dies and falls to the ground, sea floor or other location where they can be buried quickly, either under sediments (broken rock material - such as in a swamp or lake) or under volcanic ash.

Fossils may also be formed if an imprint of an organism is left in sediments such as mud or silt.





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The fleshy parts of the organism rot away. The remaining hard parts (shells, bones or exo-skeletons) will gradually be replaced by minerals dissolved in local groundwater, which fills tiny spaces in bones or shells. With more time these minerals and sediments will change into rock, and fossils will be formed.

If the fossils have not been destroyed by other geological processes they may become discoverable by people today, through uplift and erosion, bringing them to the surface.

