

Fossil Tiered Activity

Fossils are very interesting to many people. One reason fossils interest people is because they offer clues about the past. However, unlike a diary entry or an official document, fossils do not give direct answers about the past. When someone finds a fossil, they must think like a detective and construct inferences and predictions. Your job during this assignment will be to create a fossil guide for people who search for fossils.

Fossil Guide Poster

Create a poster of an actual fossil that has been found. The fossil you draw can be a fossil we analyzed during class or a fossil you viewed in a book or on the Internet. Below your sketched fossil, include an informational paragraph. The informational paragraph should include information about the fossil's type (mold or cast), the fossil's imprint, where the fossil was found and what the fossil teaches us about the past.

Fossil Guide Chart

Create a chart comparing mold, cast and index fossils. Each fossil type should include an example picture and a brief informational paragraph. The informational paragraph should include detail sentences about the type of fossil being represented (mold, cast and index). Label each chart section **Mold Fossil**, **Cast Fossil** or **Index Fossil**.

Fossil Guide Brochure

Create a brochure comparing fossils from different countries. Each country in your brochure should contain a picture of a fossil from that country. Fossils can be found in books or on fossil web sites. Along with a fossil diagram, each country's section of the brochure should contain an informational paragraph about the country and what the fossil shown teaches us about the country's history.

Scoring Rubric:

5 points: Fossil guide is creative (including written inferences, pictures and layout).

5 points: Fossil guide is accurate (including written inferences and pictures).

4 points: Fossil guide is thorough (including pictures and written parts).

4 points: Fossil guide uses correct conventions (capital letters, punctuation, complete sentences).

2 points: At least one fossil diagram or drawing is symmetrical in nature.

Total: _____/20 Points