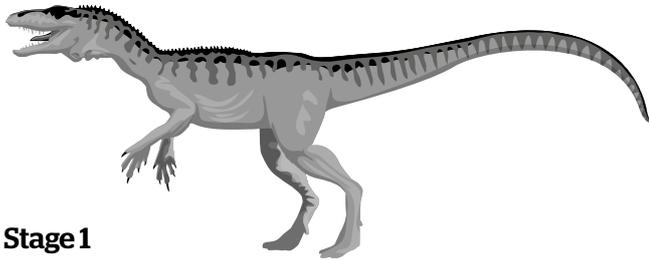


Utterly Amazing Dinosaur Fossils

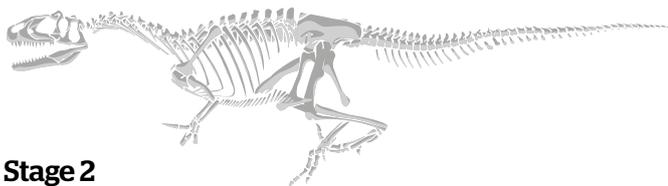
Fossilization is the process when bones turn into rock over many thousands of years. Fossils are great clues to what life on Earth used to be like. This is how we know so much about dinosaurs - from the fossils that we've found. But do you know how fossils form?



Stage 1

Not all dinosaurs turn into fossils. When a dinosaur dies, it needs the ideal conditions to become a fossil. What are the ideal conditions for fossilization?

- a) Its body is quickly buried in sand and mud
- b) Its body lays on top of the mud in the Sun
- c) Its body is eaten by predators



Stage 2

Most of the dinosaur's soft parts are eaten or rot away. What parts of the dinosaur does this include? Circle the **three** correct answers from the list below.

- SKIN
- TEETH
- MUSCLE
- ORGANS
- BONES

DO TRY THIS AT HOME

Fossil hunting

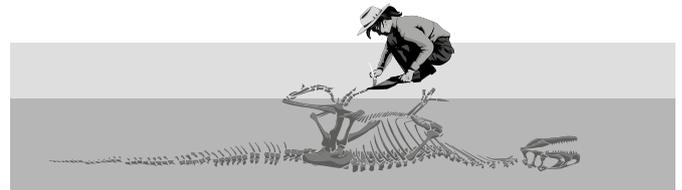
With a keen eye, you too could find fossils! Start small, looking for evidence of ancient shells and marine animals at the beach, and then work your way up to dinosaur hunting. But remember to be patient - finding fossils takes time!



Stage 3

Next the dinosaur bones harden into solid rock. What makes the dinosaur's bones harden?

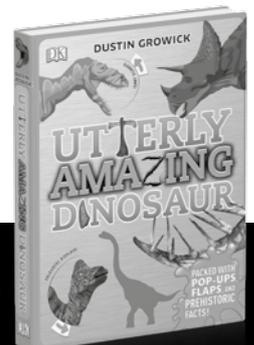
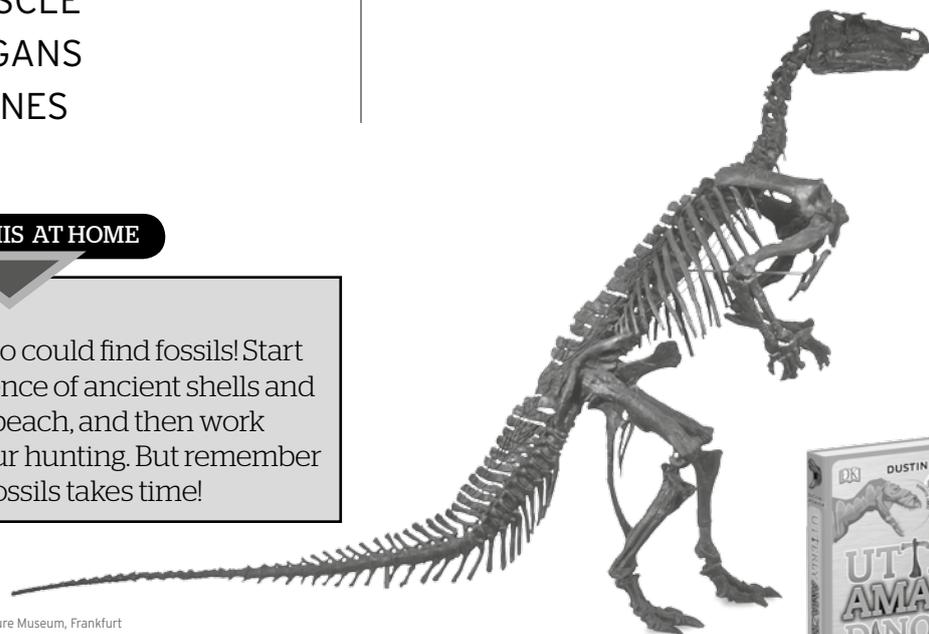
- a) Heat from the sand and mud
- b) Minerals in the water and the ground
- c) Weight of the soil and rocks on top of them



Stage 4

With a bit of luck and a lot of skill, the preserved remains of the dinosaur are found thousands of years later by a human. Can you name one type of person who looks for fossils?

Answer:



Dorling Kindersley; Andy Crawford / Senckenberg Nature Museum, Frankfurt



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Extracted from *Utterly Amazing Dinosaur*
www.dkfindout.com