



fossil



nest



clue



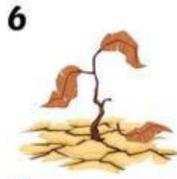
footprint



Earth



whale



dry



desert



dig up



bones



under the ground



rocks



digging



building

14

PLAY

1 Listen and read.



What are fossils?

What do you know about life on Earth thousands of years ago? Fossils give us some clues. Fossils are shapes in rocks that show the animals and plants that lived at this time. To be a fossil, the shape has to be at least ten thousand years old. Sometimes fossils show the shape of the animal or its bones. Other fossils show an animal's footprints, eggs or nest. Some fossils are 500 million years old.



Why are fossils important?

Fossils tell us about the past. We can learn about types of rocks and we can learn about animals that lived a very long time ago.

Where can you find fossils?

You can find fossils in most parts of the world. You can find them on mountains and in seas. You can find them in deserts and on beaches. You can also find them under the ground. Sometimes people find them when they are digging up roads or building houses.

How can I see fossils?

You can visit museums to look at fossils, or you can buy them at special fossil shops. You can also look for your own fossils, especially on the beach or on rocks.

Whales in the desert

Where is the best place to look for whale fossils? The sea or on beaches is the most obvious answer. But in 2011, scientists found the skeletons of 20 whales in the desert in Chile, one of the driest places on Earth. The fossils are between two and seven million years old and are very big – some are the size of a bus! Why were there whales in the desert? Scientists think that in the past this part of the desert was a sea or a very big lake.



2 Read again and write T (true) or F (false)

- 1 Fossils are at least one thousand years old. _____
- 2 You can find fossils at the beach. _____
- 3 You can't buy fossils. _____
- 4 There were whales in the desert in Chile. _____

Vocabulary

1



fossil

2



nest

3



clue

4



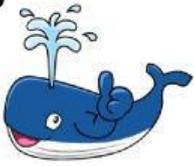
footprint

5



Earth

5



whale

6



dry

7



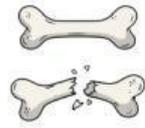
desert

8



dig up

9



bones

10

under the
ground

11



rocks

12



digging

13



building

1. Read. Then put the correct answers in the blank.

⌘ also ⌘ digging up roads ⌘ seas ⌘ mountains ⌘ deserts ⌘ on
⌘ fossils ⌘ houses ⌘ find

You can find _____ in most parts of the world. You can _____ them
on _____ and in _____. You can find them in _____ and
_____ beaches. You can _____ find them under the ground.

Sometimes people find them when they are _____ or building _____.

II. Match.

1 to dig up

2 footprint

3 under the ground

4 dry

5 desert

6 fossil

7 clue

8 dinosaur

9 bones

a a mark made by a foot on the ground.

b to use tools to remove something from the earth.

c hard parts inside your body that give it shape and support.

d a very dry place with little water and few plants.

e below the surface of the earth.

f having no water or moisture.

g a large animal that lived a long time ago and is now extinct.

h a piece of information that helps you find out something.

i the remains or marks of an ancient plant or animal found in rocks.

V. Read and answer.

1 Where can you find fossils?

2 When can people find fossils under the ground?

3 Can you find fossils in mountains and seas?

4 How do people sometimes find fossils when they are building houses?

5 What are some places where fossils can be found?

6 Do people only find fossils on beaches?

Where can you find fossils?

You can find fossils in most parts of the world. You can find them on mountains and in seas. You can find them in deserts and on beaches. You can also find them under the ground. Sometimes people find them when they are digging up roads or building houses.

III. Read again choose the correct answer.

What are fossils?

What do you know about life on Earth thousands of years ago? Fossils give us some clues. Fossils are shapes in rocks that show the animals and plants that lived at this time. To be a fossil, the shape has to be at least ten thousand years old. Sometimes fossils show the shape of the animal or its bones. Other fossils show an animal's footprints, eggs or nest. Some fossils are 500 million years old.



- 1 What are fossils used to study?
 - a How people lived long ago
 - b Animals and plants that lived long ago
 - c The weather from long ago
 - d The shape of rocks
- 2 How old does a fossil have to be to be considered a fossil?
 - a At least 100 years old
 - b At least 1,000 years old
 - c At least 10,000 years old
 - d At least 1 million years old
- 3 What can fossils tell us about animals that lived long ago?
 - a The food they ate
 - b The clothes they wore
 - c The shape of their bones and bodies
 - d The toys they played with
- 4 What is the oldest fossil mentioned in the passage?
 - a 10,000 years old
 - b 100,000 years old
 - c 1 million years old
 - d 500 million years old
- 5 How do fossils show the shape of an animal?
 - a They show the animal's outline in the rock
 - b They show the animal's footprints
 - c They show the animal's eggs or nest
 - d All of the above

IV. Read again and tick (v) true or false.

- 1 Fossils can be younger than ten thousand years. true false
- 2 Some fossils show the shape of an animal's bones. true false
- 3 Fossils can tell us about plants from the past. true false
- 4 All fossils are 500 million years old. true false
- 5 Fossils can include animal footprints. true false