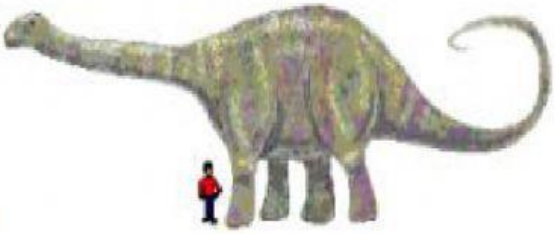
FOSSILS VOCABULARY

Review the vocabulary words, and then complete the story below.

1) **Fossils** – Remains of ancient life that have been turned to stone
2) **Body Fossil** – Actual parts of plants and animals that have been turned to stone (i.e. bone, shells, leaves)
3) **Coprolite** – Fossilized dinosaur dung (scat)
4) **Fossilization** – Process by which the remains of ancient living things are turned to rock
5) **Paleontologist** – A scientist who studies fossils and ancient life
6) **Sedimentary Rock** – Rock made of layers of tightly packed sand and clay
7) **Sandstone** – A type of sedimentary rock that is made of sand
8) **Trace Fossil** – A fossilized sign that a plant or animal once lived in an area (i.e. footprints, coprolite)
9) **Porous** – Full of tiny holes that water, air, and light can pass through
10) **Mineralization** – to convert into a mineral substance; to fill with a mineral substance

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Jane, a famous _____,
was hiking in the Colorado mountains searching for _____,
which are remains of ancient life that have turned to stone. All of a sudden the ground shook beneath her. Jane ran over a hill and saw that there had been a huge landslide. She went over to look at the piles of rocks and saw layers of _____, a type of sedimentary rock. Fossils are found in sandstone, so Jane was excited to search through the rocks! Just as she began to dig, she found fossilized bones. The bones had turned to stone through a process called _____. Jane saw that the fossils belonged to an Apatosaurus. These bones are examples of _____, which are fossilized parts of plants and animals. Jane hiked further up the mountain and found fossilized dinosaur dung, called _____. She also found a huge footprint, which is an example of a _____. Jane carefully removed the fossils from the rocks and donated them to a museum.



LIVEWORKSHEETS