NAME:	DATE:
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SCIENCE - FOSSILS



Fossils are the remains or traces of past life found in sedimentary rock. Scientists called **paleontologists** study fossils.

Wood, bones, teeth and shells are **preserved** or saved by being buried. As the sediments harden, the remains become trapped in rock and form fossils.

Some fossils show changes long-dead animals made in their surroundings. These are called **Trace Fossils**. Tracks, burrows, Trace Fossils droppings (coprolite) and worm holes are some examples of trace fossils. They tell how an animal might have moved, how big or small it might have eaten.

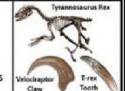
A **mold** is an imprint made by the outside of a dead plant or animal. A mold forms when water washes animal or plant remains out of rock. Sometimes sediment or minerals fill a mold and form a **cast**.

Whole plants or animals can become fossilized. These can be trapped by sap from trees (amber), glacier ice or tar pits.

When fossils are discovered, they are **excavated** and studied.

Body Fossil

The remains of actual organisms which include bones, teeth, shells or claws



Trace Fossil

A fossilized imprint of an organisms foot prints, trails, burrows, nests or eggs



Cast Fossil

A 3-D fossil that forms when a mold fills up with sediment like mud, sand or volcanic ash



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2. Which of the following items can become a fossil?

- a. plant
- b. snail
- c. fish
- **d.** all of the above

[1]

3. "Wood, bones, teeth and shells are preserved by being buried."

What does it mean to preserve?

		_[1
	A living thing that was "mummified" had to be perfectly	[1]
	a. dried	
	b. wet	SP2
	c. buried	
	d. petrified	No.
.	What is the name of the <i>scientist</i> who study fossils?	
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	animal." How is a mold formed?	
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3.	animal." How is a mold formed? Define the term excavate.	
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).	Define the term <i>excavate</i> . Using the numbers 1, 2, and 3 show the correct order in which organisms become fossilized. The sediments harden Bones, teeth and shells are buried.	[1

TOTAL MARKS: ______/15 _____%