

How are fossils made?

Name:

Step 1: When an animal dies, over time it can become covered in sediment (like sand).



Step 2: More sediment is added and turns the sediment surrounding the skeleton or shell to hard rock.

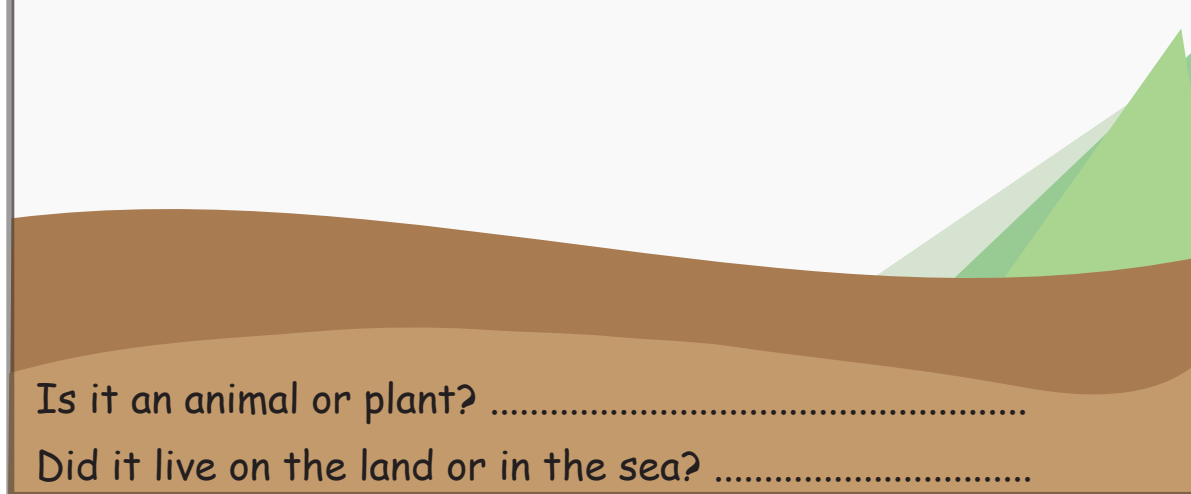


Step 3: As more time passes, the skeleton dissolves, leaving a mould of the skeleton or shell behind in the rock.



Step 4: Minerals in the water fill the shape of the mould to form a cast. The fossils are then revealed millions of years later when the rock rises to surface!

Challenge! Design and draw a fossil in the space below. What would you call it? Add labels to your picture to show its different features.



Is it an animal or plant?

Did it live on the land or in the sea?