

CREATE A FOSSIL



Send the kids outside to get muddy while it's still hot enough for you to hose them down afterwards. This "Create a Fossil" craft, as the name implies, lets kids create prehistoric fossils of their favorite natural objects or even some yet to be discovered creatures.

Materials

- Soil
- Water
- Outdoor objects such as twigs, small rocks, shells, etc.



Instructions

1. Find a variety of outdoor objects that you'd like to make fossils of. Things like rocks, sticks, leaves and shells will work well.
2. Add water to your soil until you develop a bread-dough like texture. Creating the right consistency is very important.
3. Using your hands, flatten the mixture into small pancake sized shapes. Make sure it is no more than an inch thick to minimize the time needed for "fossilizing."
4. Now you are ready to begin making your fossils. Press your favorite natural objects firmly into your soil.
5. After you have pressed and removed your objects, move the pressed mud into the sun for it to dry.
6. Once the mud has dried, you have your own fossils to show all of your friends.

In addition to natural objects, you can also use your feet or hands to create unique fossils. Feel free to add claws, talons, or even an extra digit or two, to develop that yet-to-be discovered creature. Don't forget we would love to see pictures of your child in action and their recently discovered fossils, so be sure to send them to us or post them on our Facebook page.

Note: If your soil has low clay content, mix in one part flour for every four parts of soil.

This craft is adapted from Step By Step Child Care: <http://stepbystepcc.com/dirt.html>