

# FOSSIL PUZZLER (1 HOUR)

Addresses NGSS

Level of Difficulty: 2

Grade Range: 3-5



## OVERVIEW

*Students will examine and sketch various trace fossils from an unknown creature and then construct an image of the creature that they believe produced these fossils.*

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**Topic: Fossils**

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### Real World Science Topics:

- An exploration of how trace fossils are used by scientists
  - An exploration of how scientists draw inferences from pieces of data
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### Objective

Students will gain an understanding of how scientists use trace fossils to construct a model of an unknown creature and infer information about the creature.

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### Materials Needed for Each Team of 2-4 Students:

modeling clay  
one oddly shaped doll (such as a fictional animal or alien)

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### Materials Needed for Student Activity (each group of two to four students):

set of three clay fossil imprints  
pencils or pens  
large paper

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