

# CONTINUE THE LEARNING



Thank you for spending time with the Children's Museum of Richmond. We hope you enjoyed your educational program, Dino Discovery!

To encourage learning to continue after your CMoR program, we invite you to use these activities to deepen students' understanding of dinosaurs.

# LESSON EXTENSIONS



- "Making Dino Fossils" salt dough craft (included below)
- "Draw Your Pet Dinosaur" activity (included below)



## **EXTRA RESOURCES**

""Fossils & Dinosaurs" Real World Science- Learning Videos Channel https://youtu.be/\_lgkYj6UmOM

"How a Paleontologist Cleans Dinosaur Fossils" Art Insider https://youtu.be/73RJlqi\_hQQ

## **ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS**

## "Make a Dino Fossil" salt dough craft

Students can make salt dough (non-toxic and totally natural!). Then they can explore pressing objects into the dough, leaving impressions. These impressions are a great basic example of how fossils are formed. Have students press objects like plastic dinos, leaves, sticks, seashells, or even Lego bricks!

#### Additional idea:

Students can also explore forming fossils of the actual bones (leg bone, arm bone, skull, tail, etc.) with the salt dough, in addition to making impressions.





## "Draw Your Pet Dinosaur" activity

Invite imagination by asking, "If you had a pet dinosaur, what would it look like? What would you name it? Would it be a meat eater, plant eater, or both? Where in the world would it live? So many possibilities!

This activity has two sheets. One is for drawing the dinosaur, and one sheet is an inspiration/idea page to help get imaginations activated.



# MAKE A DINO FOSSIL ACTIVITY Using Salt Dough

Want to know how to make a real dinosaur fossil? First, you need a dinosaur. Then you have to bury it in layers and layers of dirt. Don't forget to make sure there are no pockets in the soil where air and water can reach it, and then wait tens of thousands of years. Voilà! You have a fossilized dinosaur!

OR

You can make your own fossil impressions using things from around your home, and you only have to wait one day!



#### **MATERIALS**

½ cup warm water
1 cup salt
2 cups flour (use whole wheat for a natural dirt look)
Plastic dinosaurs

### Optional:

Leaves
Seashells
Legos
Other hard objects that can make an impression

#### **INSTRUCTIONS**

Grab a grown-up helper!

#### Make the salt dough:

- 1. Mix warm water, salt, and flour together in a bowl using a large spoon.
- 2. Form mixture into a ball with your hands and knead for about 1 minute.

#### Form the Fossil:

- 1. Tear large ball of dough into smaller pieces (about the size of a ping pong ball).
- 2. Roll smaller piece of dough into a ball.
- 3. Press the dough flat using the palm of your hand (into a cookie shape).
- 4. Press hard objects into the dough and then lift out object to make an impression! Repeat with other dough pieces.

#### Harden the fossil:

- 1. Option One: Allow newly made fossils to dry out overnight.
- 2. Option Two: Put all newly made fossils on a baking sheet and bake at 250 degrees for  $1\,\%$  to 2 hours.



NAME: _		 	
DATE.			

## DRAW YOUR PET DINO ACTIVITY

My dinosaur is named	

Customize your pet dinosaur with the options on the 'Ideas Page'. Choose what they will look like. Draw a background to show where your dinosaur lives and what they eat. Don't forget to give them a name!



# **DINOSAUR IDEA PAGE**







