

MAKE A



FOSSIL IMPRESSION



Fossil impressions are the two-dimensional imprint from a plant or animal preserved in the earth's crust. Impressions do not contain any organic material. The plant or animal lands in mud, clay, silt, or sand and an impression of the plant or animal remains. Given the proper conditions, the impression hardens, and forms a mold.



Materials

- Air Hardening Modelling Clay (white or colored)
- Tray
- Objects for Impression
- Vegetable Oil (Optional)
- Paint (Optional)

1



Choose an object that you want to make an impression of.

2

Shape the clay slightly larger than the object that you will be using to make an impression and place it in the tray.



3



Gently but firmly, push the object into the clay to create an impression, then remove it. If the object sticks to the clay, apply a little vegetable oil to the object and try again.

4

Make impressions of as many objects as you wish. Allow the clay to dry. If desired, paint the fossil impression.



What does your fossil impression tell you about the animal or plant from the past?