

Questions About Fossils

Answers

1. What does a palaeontologist study?

Fossils

2. What is the nickname of the best preserved Tyrannosaurus Rex skeleton?

Sue

3. What sort of rock are fossils found in?

Sedimentary Rock (layered rock over millions of years)

4. Which town has an ammonite fossil as their symbol?

Whitby

5. Why have we only got fossils to find out about dinosaurs?

Because they lived so long ago and nothing else would last that long.

(Discuss what we have now as evidence: photos, film, books, stories passed down through generations etc.)

6. What is sedimentary rock?

Rock made from different layers over time.

7. How come the fossilised animals or plants haven't been eaten by other animals?

They were buried under mud or sand (or similar).

8. The author used an exclamation mark at the end of the Fossil Facts section to make it sound surprising. Why is that sentence surprising?

It does not seem possible to turn snakes into stone. It could seem strange that people believed this. (Did people think it was magic?)

9. Why aren't there any fossils of cats that lived twenty years ago?

Fossils take millions of years to make. Twenty years is not anywhere near long enough.

10. Do you think the ammonites in the pictures look like snakes? Why?

Open ended for discussion.