

FOSSIL P.I.

GEORGIA STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE:
S5L1 a, b; S7L1 a, b

**5th + 7th Grade,
High School**



DESCRIPTION

What can we use to understand and classify life on Earth? Students will actively classify different organisms. They will also learn how to use a dichotomous key and use it to identify actual fossil specimens.

FIELD TRIP - APPROXIMATELY 2 HOURS

30 MINUTES - GALLERY TIME

- Describe fossils and explain how fossils are formed and are dated
- Classify different types of fossils
- Hunt for clues to life in different times

30 MINUTES - STORE

30 MINUTES - LAB

- Define classification
- Classify different forms of life
- Define a dichotomous key and how it is used
- Utilize a dichotomous key to classify genuine fossils

30 MINUTES - FOSSIL DIG

TAKE HOME ITEMS

- Keep 3 items excavated from the Fossil Dig

VIRTUAL FIELD TRIP - APPROXIMATELY 1 HOUR

- Definition of different types of fossils with fossil samples
- Classification Activity
- Why a dichotomous key is important
- Why was the Brontosaurus reclassified?
- Careers in Paleontology
- Q + A with a Tellus Educator

PRE + POST ACTIVITIES CURRICULUM PACKET

- Vocabulary Activity
- Pre-recorded Video
- Scavenger hunt (use with video)
- Dichotomous Key Activity (use with video)