THE STRIVING

MUSLIM ACADEMY

Islamic and Academic Education

STAGE 3 · SCIENCE · ROCKS

Rocks

Everything the questions ask about is taught on the page before them, so nobody has to know the science beforehand.

WHAT IS INSIDE

- Telling rocks apart
- How a fossil forms
- What soil is
- Try it yourself
- How each one is worked

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3 topics · something to do at the end

Written for a parent teaching at home. No training assumed, and nothing else to buy.

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How a fossil forms

Read this first. Then answer the questions underneath.



A fossil is the remains or traces of something that was once alive, kept in rock. Traces count: a footprint or a burrow is a fossil too, and neither is the shape of the animal itself.

It happens like this. An animal or plant dies and is quickly covered by mud or sand. The soft parts rot away. The hard parts, such as bones or shells, stay. Over a very long time the mud hardens into rock around them, and minerals seep in and replace the hard parts, keeping the shape.

Most living things never become fossils. Being covered quickly is the rare part.

1. What is a fossil? Give both kinds the passage names.

The first sentence names two kinds.

2. What covers the animal or plant?

It has to happen quickly.

3. Which parts stay?

The soft parts do something else.

4. WORK IT OUT **Why do most living things never become fossils?**

The last line tells you which step is unusual.

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Quick check



One right answer each, and every answer is somewhere in this pack. Ring the letter.

1. **What soil is What is organic matter?**
   (A) Mud or sand (B) Rock and organic matter (C) The remains of living things (D) One property rarely decides anything

2. **Telling rocks apart What does one property on its own do?**
   (A) Some are hard and some crumble (B) Mud or sand (C) The remains of living things (D) One property rarely decides anything

3. **Telling rocks apart Name two ways rocks can be different.**
   (A) Some are hard and some crumble (B) One property rarely decides anything (C) The hard parts, such as bones or shells (D) Mud or sand

4. **What soil is What two things is soil made of?**
   (A) Rock and organic matter (B) Mud or sand (C) The hard parts, such as bones or shells (D) One property rarely decides anything

5. **What soil is What breaks rock down into tiny pieces?**
   (A) Mud or sand (B) Water, ice, wind and roots (C) The remains of living things (D) Rock and organic matter

6. **How a fossil forms What covers the animal or plant?**
   (A) Water, ice, wind and roots (B) Mud or sand (C) One property rarely decides anything (D) Some are hard and some crumble

7. **How a fossil forms Which parts stay?**
   (A) The remains of living things (B) The hard parts, such as bones or shells (C) Some are hard and some crumble (D) Rock and organic matter

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How each one is worked

The answers to the **work it out** questions are model answers. A child who says something different and can show you where on the page it came from has done the work.



TELLING ROCKS APART

1. Name two ways rocks can be different.

1. The passage says some are hard and some crumble.
2. Grains, soaking up water and layers are also right.

Answer: **Some are hard and some crumble**

2. What does one property on its own do?

1. The passage says one property rarely decides anything.
2. So that is the answer.

Answer: **One property rarely decides anything**

3. WORK IT OUT Why is it not enough to say a rock is hard?

1. The passage says none of these on its own tells you what a rock is.
2. Properties work together to narrow it down.

Answer: **Because many rocks are hard, so it does not narrow it down on its own**

HOW A FOSSIL FORMS

1. What is a fossil? Give both kinds the passage names.

1. A fossil is the remains or traces of something that was once alive, kept in rock.
2. A footprint or a burrow is a trace fossil, even though it is not the shape of the animal.

Answer: **The remains or traces of something once alive, kept in rock**

2. What covers the animal or plant?

1. The passage says it is quickly covered by mud or sand.
2. So the answer is **mud or sand**.

Answer: **Mud or sand**

3. Which parts stay?

1. The passage says the hard parts, such as bones or shells, stay.
2. So that is the answer.

Answer: **The hard parts, such as bones or shells**

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SAMPLE PAGES

You have read a few pages. The pack is longer.

What you are holding is a short sample, taken from different parts of the pack so that you can see how a week is planned and what a child is actually asked to do, before you decide.

The complete pack, and the rest of the academic materials, are on our website: schemes of work for a parent teaching at home, and practice packs for the skills children get stuck on.

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Islamic and Academic Education

Members of the homeschool community do not buy these. If you have joined the community, the pack for the term you are working on is given to you at no cost.

Our Islamic Education classes are free. These packs are part of what pays the teachers who teach them.