**Definition:** A **fossil** is evidence in rock of the presence of a life in the past.



|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Fossil type** | **Description** | **Example** |
| Trace | Imprints or material left from the activities of life: burrows, trails, foot prints, and poop! | Trace Fossils | tracefossils |
| Body fossils |
| Unaltered remains (preservation of original material) | Encasement in amber or tar | Myanmar amber traps scientists in ethical dilemma over funding war - Nikkei  Asia |
| Mummification or freezing | Look What&#39;s Bubbling Up From Russia&#39;s Melting Permafrost |
| Permineralization | Minerals fill empty spaces  | PermineralizationPaleontologists say this femur bone belongs to one of the biggest dinosaurs  of all time | CNN |
| Mold and cast | **Mold:** mineralized impression of the organism left in the sediment.**Cast:** mineralized sediment that fills the mold. |  |
| Replacement | Material dissolves and is replaced by a mineral. | Pyrite: Fool&#39;s Gold |
| Carbonization | Only residual carbon remains as a thin black film. | Carbonization |