



FOSSILIZED ROCKS

Body Fossils

Body fossils are fossils that contain the body parts of ancient organisms. This can be a tooth or a bone. Body fossils are likely to be found in sedimentary rocks where layers of sediment covered the remains of the organisms.

A fossil is a heavy and rock-like copy of the original object. When a bone, for example, is buried, it decays and a cavity forms, preserving the shape of the bone. Mineral-rich water then seeps in and fills the cavity (which now acts as a natural mould). The minerals deposited in the mould form a cast of the mould. This cast has the same shape as the original bone. This process is called fossilization.

