

## **Fossils / Lesson 2 Study Guide**

Date Given October 9, 2017 **Test Date: October 18, 2017**

GA Standards of Excellence / S3E2

Essential Question: What can we learn from fossils?

What you need to know...

**Fossil:** The hardened remains of a plant or animal that lived long ago.

Fossil footprints are marks that animals left behind. Dinosaur tracks give clues to the animal's **size and shape**.

**Compare:** to see how things are alike or different.

Scientists use fossils to **compare** plants and animals of long ago to plants and animals living today.

Plant fossils are **not** as common as animal fossils.

An example of a plant fossil is a **leaf print** in mud that hardened into stone over many, many years. Another example of a plant fossil is **petrified wood**.

**Petrified wood** is a fossil where wood turned to stone. The soft parts of a once-living tree were replaced by hard **minerals**.

**Extinct:** A kind of plant or animal that once lived but no longer lives on Earth.

Examples of extinct animals are **Tyrannosaurus rex, Saber-toothed cats and woolly mammoths**.

**Fossils** help scientists learn about plants and animals that lived long ago.