

Instructions: Label and Record a Fossil Worksheet

Recommended Grade: any; adapt as needed

This worksheet is meant to accompany the “Protecting and Caring for Fossils” slideshow. It is recommended that you go through the slides with your students prior to doing this activity.

Supplies:

- Educational slideshow “Protecting and Caring for Fossils”
- “Label and Record a Fossil” worksheets
- Writing utensils
- Drawing utensils (optional)

Learning Outcomes:

- Recognize three key rules around lawful and ethical recreational fossil collection in B.C.
- List responsibilities of a fossil caretaker.

Instructions:

Before you begin the activity, go through the “Protecting and Caring for Fossils” slideshow. This provides important background information that will help students make their own fossil labels. The slides on the topics of citizen scientists and fossil labeling will teach students key rules about lawful and ethical recreational fossil collection in B.C. A good place to take a break from the slides to do this activity is after the “Labeling and Reporting Fossils” slides.

After going through the slideshow, have your students fill out the worksheet. There are two different worksheets available and four different ways to fill out the worksheet. Choose the complexity level appropriate for your class.

1. Have students bring specimens from home
2. Use the fossils in the fossil kit
3. Use the virtual 3D fossil models provided (go to page 27)
4. Use the paleobiology database (recommended for secondary students only) (go to page 30)

Curricular Competencies:

The complexity of these competencies varies by grade. These are summarized from the [BC Curriculum](#) for brevity.

- Represent and communicate observations and ideas using drawings, pictographs, written language, scientific language, tables, simple reports, etc.
- Collect, sort, and classify data and information using drawings, pictographs, and/or tables.
- Demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of evidence.
- Identify and consider environmental, social, and ethical implications and consequences of own actions and the actions of others.

- Contribute to care for self, others, and community through personal or collaborative approaches.

Curricular Content:

- Names of local plants and animals (**Grade 1**)
- Local types of earth materials (**Grade 5**)
- The nature of sustainable practices around B.C.'s resources (**Grade 5**)
- The fossil record provides evidence for changes in biodiversity over geological time (**Grade 7**)