

# Studying FOSSILS

Scientists can learn a lot about the past by studying fossils. **Fossils** are the preserved remains of plants and animals. For preserved remains to be considered fossils, they have to be over **10,000** years old. Scientists called **paleontologists**, study fossils in order to try to learn about plants and animals that lived on the earth thousands of years ago. By studying **dinosaur fossils**, a scientist can make claims about how it looked, what it ate, and how it moved.



After reading the passage check off if the statement is true or false.

**1.** In order for remains to be considered a fossil, they must be 1,000 years old.

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True

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False

**2.** By studying fossils, scientists can make claims about what a dinosaur ate.

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True

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False

**3.** Scientists who study fossils are called paleontologists.

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True

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False