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## Fossil Fun and Dino Dough

When an animal or plant dies in mud, it can leave an impression, or **mold**, that hardens into rock. The impression can fill in with other material to make a copy, or **cast**, of the shape. In this activity you can create your own fossil molds and casts.



### You'll need:

- Clay, playdough, or salt dough
- Items to make prints, like a leaf, twig, shell, or other small toys

### What to do:

1. Smooth out the clay into a flat shape.
2. Press the item into the clay.
3. Try different items to see what impressions they make.
4. Optional: let the clay harden.



### Dino (salt) dough recipe

#### You'll need:

- Bowl
- Spoon
- Measuring cup
- 1 cup salt
- 2 cups flour
- $\frac{3}{4}$  to 1 cup of water

#### What to do:

1. Mix flour and salt into bowl.
2. Add water slowly and stir until consistency of soft clay.
3. Make your creations.
4. Clay will air dry in a few days or bake at 200 degrees F for 2-3 hours.