

MAKE YOUR OWN FOSSILS

Some rocks, especially sedimentary rocks, can contain fossils. As plants or animals get covered and compacted into mud and sediments over thousands of years, an imprint is left behind in the forming rock.



MATERIALS YOU'LL NEED:

- 2 cups flour
- 1 cup salt
- 1 cup water
- Mixing bowl & spoon
- Baking sheet
- Oven
- Objects to make imprints such as animal toys, shells, leaves

STEP 1

Gather your ingredients and a bowl. You can modify the recipe depending on how much salt dough you wish to make. But aim to stick to the ratios of 2 parts flour, 1 part salt, and about 1 part water.



STEP 2

Pour the flour and salt into the bowl first. Then slowly add water. Begin mixing to form the dough as you are adding the water.



STEP 3

Make sure you add enough water to be able to knead the dough into one ball. If your dough is too crumbly, add a little more water. If your dough is too wet or sticky, try adding a little more flour.



STEP 4

On a cutting board or flat surface, separate the dough into smaller balls and flatten with your hand. Now it is time to create your fossils! Press your item firmly into the dough, then carefully remove. Try out making your fossils with different items like plastic animal toys, shells, and leaves!



STEP 5

Place your fossils on a nonstick baking sheet, and place in the oven on 250 degrees for about an hour, or until your dough has hardened. Consider painting your fossils for even more fun!

