

well. Paleontology (pay-lee-un-tall'-uh-gee) is the study of the history of life on earth, using fossils as the evidence. So if you love dinosaurs and you want to know more about what happened on earth thousands or millions of years ago, maybe someday you can make your living by digging up fossils!



a Which of the following statements is true about fossils?

- 1 The oldest fossils on record date back to the time of the first humans living in North America.
- 2 Only large animals, like dinosaurs, mammoths, and sabertoothed cats, are capable of becoming fossilized.
- 3 It is becoming harder and harder for scientists to find fossils, so paleontology is a dying profession.
- 4 You are likely to find a fossil after it has been brought to the surface by wind or rain erosion, or even a natural disaster.

b Where are you most likely to discover a fossil?

- 1 in North America, only
- 2 in Asia, only
- 3 all continents except Africa
- 4 anywhere on earth

c Using the information in the article, describe one way a fossil can form.

due to its decomposition a mold is similar to the animal or plant that died in that place. can be formed

d In your own words, describe what the La Brea Tar Pits are.

what I understood was that scientists discovered dinosaur bones and also discovered that when they let dinosaur skeletons speak they become fossils

