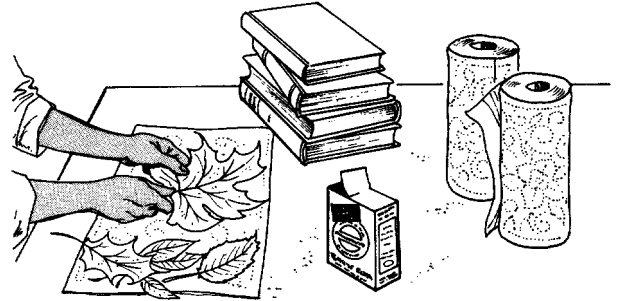


**Chapter 24**

Use with Section 2

**ENRICHMENT****• Early Earth History****How can you make a “fossil”?****Materials**

paper towels  
 heavy books  
 baking soda  
 stems, leaves, flowers, or other organic material

**Procedure**

1. Make a stack of 4 or 5 squares of paper toweling.
2. Sprinkle the top paper towel with baking soda.
3. Lay organic material flat on the baking soda.
4. Cover the organic material with a thin layer of baking soda. Then place another 4 or 5 squares of paper toweling over it.
5. Place a pile of heavy books on the paper toweling. Leave the books undisturbed for 2 or 3 days.
6. Remove the books. Carefully remove the upper layers of toweling and gently shake off the top layer of baking soda.

**Analyze**

1. Describe the “fossil” created by this experiment. Include color, shape, and similarity to the original organic material in your description. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
2. Explain why this is not a true fossil. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
3. What is the purpose of the baking soda? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What material or action in the formation of true fossils is represented by the books? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Conclude and Apply**

5. If the material had been buried in mud, what would eventually have happened to the tissue of the organic matter? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
6. How would your experiment differ if you placed a piece of seashell instead of a leaf between the layers of paper toweling? Explain your answer. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
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