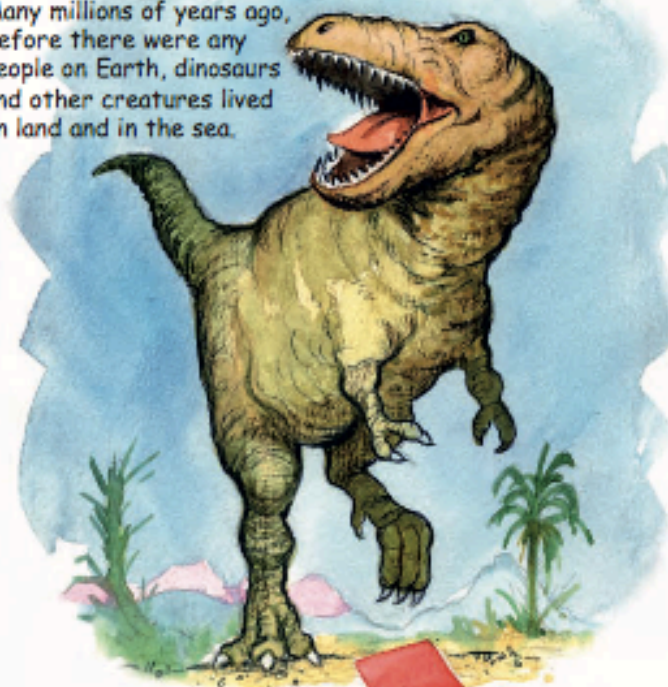
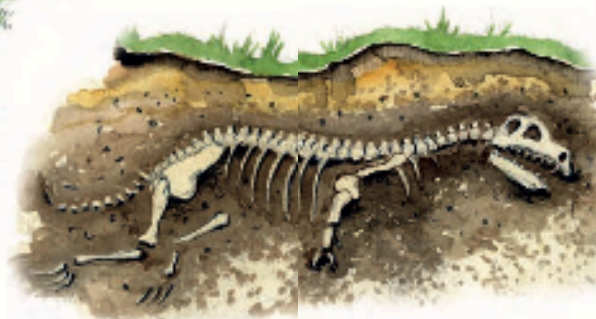


How do we know about Dinosaurs?

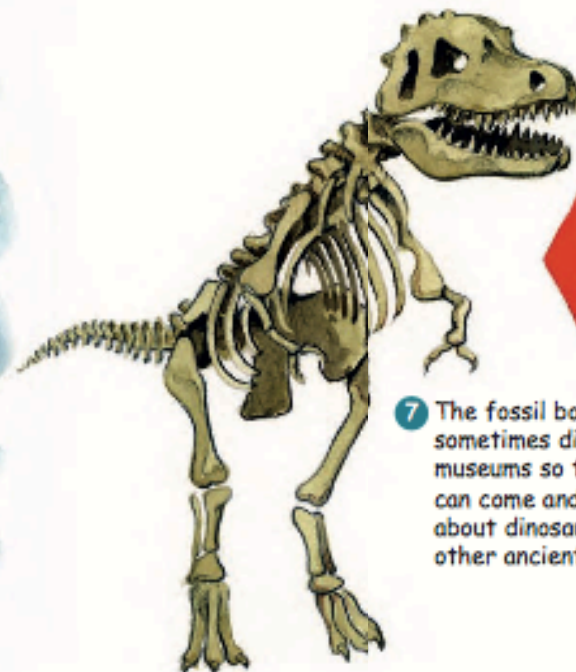
1 Many millions of years ago, before there were any people on Earth, dinosaurs and other creatures lived on land and in the sea.



2 When they died, their bodies lay on the ground, or on the bottom of the sea. They became covered with mud.



3 Over many years, the mud turned into rock, and the bones of the creatures turned into stone. These stone bone shapes are called fossils.



7 The fossil bones are sometimes displayed in museums so that people can come and find out about dinosaurs and other ancient creatures.



6 Scientists in museums study the fossils to work out as much as they can about the creature that the bones came from. They can find out what it looked like, how it walked, flew or swam and what kinds of food it ate.



5 After the fossil bones have been excavated, they are wrapped in bandages to protect them and they are taken to museums.



4 The fossils stayed hidden in the rocks for millions of years. Then people found them and dug them up. They began to wonder about the creatures that the fossil bones belonged to. Nowadays, scientists find fossils in rocks or cliffs, and dig them up very carefully. This is called excavating the fossils.