

# Examples of Nonfiction

**A.** Some scientists study fossils to learn about plants and animals that lived long ago. Fossils may be imprints left by a leaf or shell, or footprints made in the mud by a dinosaur. Other fossils are actually the remains of a plant or animal, such as bones or teeth.



Many fossils were formed millions of years ago, over long periods of time. When an animal died, most of its body decayed. Some hard parts, such as bones or shells, were covered with layers of sand and mud. Over time, the layers were pressed together and hardened to form rock. Minerals from the mud seeped into the bones, making them like stone. Scientists are discovering these fossilized remains. They use these clues to figure out what living things were like long ago.

**B.** Dear Editor,

I am a fourth grader at Grandview School. My class just finished a unit on healthy water. Wow! There is dangerous stuff in our local water! Most people would be surprised. Bad water can be especially harmful for young children and elderly people. We cannot change our water in a day, but with help, we can change it in a year. Let's spread the word.

Sincerely,  
Matt Franklin

Name \_\_\_\_\_