



What Dinosaur Did These Bones Come From?

.....
Research Assistant Notebook
.....

Student Name

MY OBSERVATIONS: EXAMINING MYSTERY FOSSILS

Sketch the fossil.

Use descriptive words and phrases to describe the fossils.

MYSTERY FOSSIL #1

MYSTERY FOSSIL #2

MYSTERY FOSSIL #3

WHAT TYPE OF DINOSAUR DID THESE BONES COME FROM?

Observations

Inferences

FOSSIL #1

SAUROPOD	This is <i>(circle one)</i> strong weak disconfirming evidence that this fossil belonged to a Sauropod.
THEROPOD	This is <i>(circle one)</i> strong weak disconfirming evidence that this fossil belonged to a Theropod.
ORNITHISCHIAN	This is <i>(circle one)</i> strong weak disconfirming evidence that this fossil belonged to an Ornithischian.

FOSSIL #2

SAUROPOD	This is <i>(circle one)</i> strong weak disconfirming evidence that this fossil belonged to a Sauropod.
THEROPOD	This is <i>(circle one)</i> strong weak disconfirming evidence that this fossil belonged to a Theropod.
ORNITHISCHIAN	This is <i>(circle one)</i> strong weak disconfirming evidence that this fossil belonged to an Ornithischian.

FOSSIL #3

SAUROPOD	This is <i>(circle one)</i> strong weak disconfirming evidence that this fossil belonged to a Sauropod.
THEROPOD	This is <i>(circle one)</i> strong weak disconfirming evidence that this fossil belonged to a Theropod.
ORNITHISCHIAN	This is <i>(circle one)</i> strong weak disconfirming evidence that this fossil belonged to an Ornithischian.

WHAT SPECIES OF DINOSAUR DID THESE BONES COME FROM?

Use the table below to list your pieces of evidence and then mark an “x” in the correct column to label each piece of evidence as either **strong** (S), **weak** (W), or **disconfirming** (D).

HYPOTHESIS #1:

.....

LIST OF EVIDENCE:

S	W	D

Do you have a second hypothesis? Record it here.

HYPOTHESIS #2:

.....

LIST OF EVIDENCE:

S	W	D

MY HYPOTHESIS: WHAT DINOSAUR DID THESE BONES COME FROM?

MY HYPOTHESIS TO THIS QUESTION IS:

STRONG EVIDENCE I FOUND IN SUPPORT OF MY HYPOTHESIS:

WEAK EVIDENCE I FOUND IN SUPPORT OF MY HYPOTHESIS:

DISCONFIRMING EVIDENCE I FOUND THAT CONFLICTS WITH MY HYPOTHESIS:

NOTE: If there is disconfirming evidence against your hypothesis, think carefully about why it did not change your thinking.

PRESENTATION NOTES

Using your notes from the previous notebook pages, fill out the sections below to create an outline that you can use to present your research findings to your fellow research assistants.

MY HYPOTHESIS:

MAKE A LIST OF THE KEY POINTS THAT YOU WILL COMMUNICATE IN YOUR PRESENTATION.

TIP: First explain your hypothesis using your strong evidence and any relevant background information. Next, acknowledge weak and disconfirming evidence, and state why you still thought your hypothesis was the strongest option given the information you had. Conclude by noting additional evidence that would help you form a stronger hypothesis.