



SALT DOUGH BONES AND FOSSILS

T-Rexes and tiaras... what exactly do those two things have to do with each other? Well, absolutely nothing! Formally known as **Tyrannosaurus Rex**, the word tyrannosaurus means “**tyrant lizard**” and rex comes from the Greek word meaning “king.” So, deemed “**King of the Dinosaurs**”, we like to imagine that all T-Rexes wore some type of crown, such as a tiara. This week we are traveling back 66 million years to the land of dinosaurs. Although we weren't living that long ago, we have a pretty good idea of **what dinosaurs looked like** based on **bones and fossils**. Today you'll be creating some **bones and fossils of your own!**

Below you will see a list of **suggested** materials, but please get creative and use what you have on hand at home! There is no single way to do this craft!

Materials:

- ▶ 1 ¼ cups salt
- ▶ 5 cups All-Purpose Flour
- ▶ 2 cups of water
- ▶ Large mixing bowl
- ▶ Mixing spoon
- ▶ Baking sheet or tray
- ▶ Small toys and figurines (optional)
- ▶ Parchment or wax paper (optional)
- ▶ Oven for baking*

*adult supervision advised



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Let's get **STARTED!**

Step 1

Add the **salt** and **flour** to your bowl and give it a good stir.

Step 2

Add the **water** and start by using a spoon to mix, then **switch** to your hands to work out any lumps. **Mix and knead** the dough thoroughly until there are no more lumps.



Step 3

When the dough is ready, it will look and feel like bread dough – **but don't eat it!** If your dough is **too sticky**, try adding a little **more flour**. If your dough is **too crumbly**, add a little **more water**.



Step 4

To make **FOSSILS**: pinch and roll out some balls of dough. **Flatten** the dough ball with the palm of your hand and **use small toys and items** to press into the dough. Remember to press **lightly!** Take the item out of the dough and check out your **imprint**. To make **BONES**: pinch and roll out various size balls of dough. **Shape them** how you would like them. You can make a variety of **different bones** or try making **matching bones** that **make a dinosaur** when put together! If dinosaur bones aren't your thing, you can **create anything you want** to out of the dough!

Step 5

Leave your **bones, fossils, and other creations** on a lined baking sheet to dry. You can do this two different ways. **Option 1:** Bake the salt dough at **350 degrees for 45 minutes to an hour** (time will vary based on the **size** of the salt dough shapes so be sure to **keep an eye on them**). If using the oven, **please ask for assistance from an adult!** Make sure fossils are **completely cool** before handling them. **Option 2:** Leave your salt dough creations on a baking sheet and **leave out to dry for a few days**. You can also set them out in the hot summer sun to **speed up** the drying process!

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