

Fossil Evidence Lab

Pre-Lab

A fossil is any evidence of life in the prehistoric past. Fossils can be actual remains of animals, impressions, carbon residues, or tracks left by a living organism. By using fossil records, scientists are able to piece together the story that fossils tell about the history of the Earth.

Purpose: To use some present-day knowledge and common sense to interpret fossil evidence.

Materials: pencil

Procedure:

Part A

1. Observe the diagram of the fossil footprints in Figure 1.
2. Use Figure 1 to answer questions 1 through 6 in Observations.
3. Using the answers to these questions and some common sense, interpret the events that may have occurred in Figure 1. Note: Your interpretation should be consistent with the diagram.

Part B

1. Observe the diagram of the fossil footprints in Figure 2.
2. Use Figure 2 to answer questions 7 through 9 in Observations.
3. Using the answers to these questions and some common sense, interpret the events that may have occurred in Figure 2. Note: Your interpretation should be consistent with the diagram.

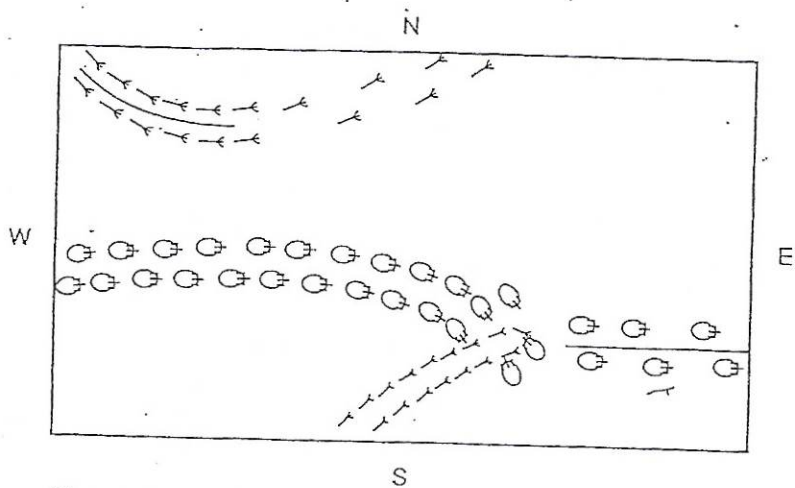


Figure 1

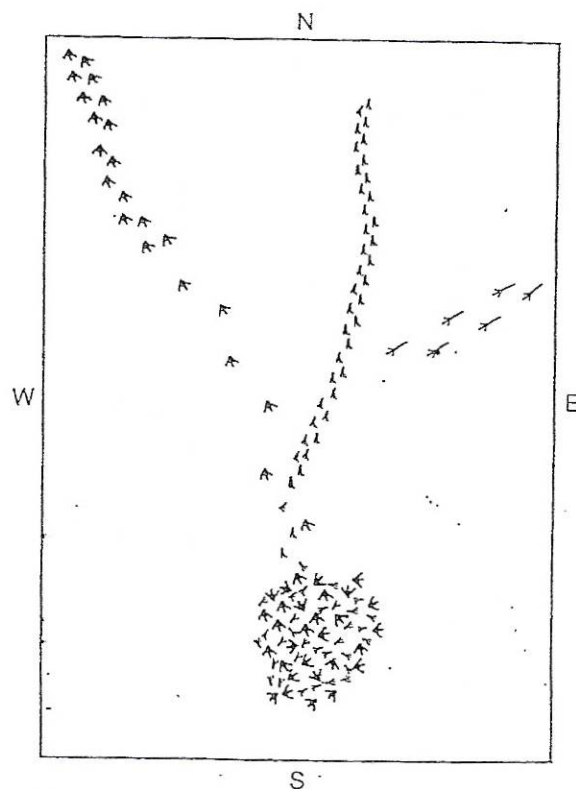


Figure 2