Section Review

1. Identify two ways in which remains may be preserved as fossils.
2. Describe trace fossils and how paleontologists use them to make inferences about the past.
3. COMPARE AND CONTRAST Explain how original remains, replaced remains, molds, and casts are similar and how they are different.
4. PAIRED ACTIVITY Work with a partner to complete the table with examples of each type of fossil.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Original</th>
<th>Replaced</th>
<th>Molds</th>
<th>Casts</th>
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Trace Fossils

Often, no part of a skeleton or plant survives as a fossil. However, other, more indirect evidence of life may be preserved as a trace fossil. Trace fossils include any impressions left in rock by an animal, such as trails, footprints, tracks, burrows, and even bite marks on fossils of trilobites. Scientists infer the existence of many animals from trace fossils. For example, scientists can learn about dinosaurs that lived in a particular area from footprints the animals left behind.

Carbonaceous Films

Sometimes the only fossil trace is a thin carbon film resembling a silhouette. The remains of plants or animals in sediments are affected by high temperature and pressure as additional sediments are deposited. These conditions cause the carbon compounds making up the tissues of animals and plants to undergo chemical changes. This carbonizing process results in a thin film of carbon that details the remains.