



# ACADEMY VIRTUAL FESTIVAL PALEOPALOOZA

A Nine-Day Festival of Fossils

October 17–25

## Trilobite Fossil Rocks

Trilobites are a variety of arthropod that inhabited every niche in the Cambrian and Permian seas. These animals had three major lobes: the cephalon (head), a segmented thorax and a pygidium (tail piece). Since trilobite fossils are a rare find, make your own trilobite fossil using a rock!

### Know before you begin

- This activity can be done inside or outside
- All supplies are easy to find, substitute or modify
- Adult supervision is recommended
- Please choose a safe space to play

### Materials

- Rocks
- Paint or Permanent Markers
- Paintbrush

### Instructions

Paint rock to look like trilobite.

- Paint lines to show the different lobes: cephalon (head), a segmented thorax and a pygidium (tail piece).
- Paint compound eyes.
- Paint three sections left to right on the Trilobite's body.
- **Optional:** Add adaptations like head spikes, thorax spikes or pygidium spikes.

*What other adaptations did trilobites have?*

- **Optional:** Add jointed legs to bottom of trilobite because, as an arthropod, your trilobite would have jointed legs.

