

**Process of Paleontology**  
**Large Fossils at the La Brea Tar Pits**

**ANSWER KEY**

# Process of Paleontology

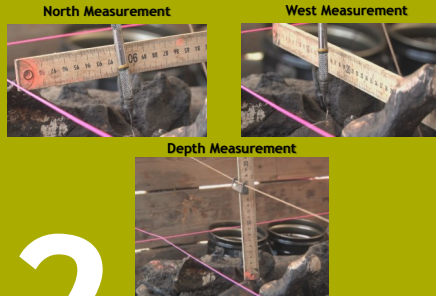
## Large Fossils at the La Brea Tar Pits

Remove the surrounding matrix.



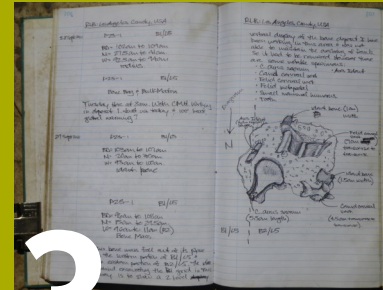
1

Take measurements of the fossil.



2

Record data in field notebook.



3

Write information on a data card which will stay with the fossil.



4

Fossil is taken to the Fossil Lab.



5

Fossil is soaked in n-propyl bromide, then cleaned and repaired if necessary.



6

Fossil is catalogued.



7

Fossil is stored in the collections.



8

Please note: some steps can happen simultaneously!

**Process of Paleontology**  
**Microfossils at the La Brea Tar Pits**

**ANSWER KEY**

# Process of Paleontology

## Microfossils at the La Brea Tar Pits

Preserve matrix in buckets.



1

Sort out delicate fossils by hand.



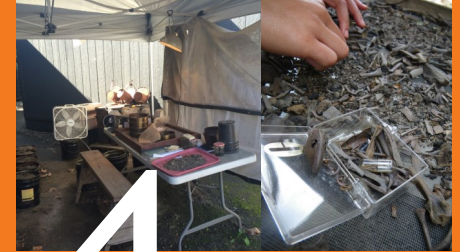
2

Soak the matrix in solvents.  
First in biodiesel and then in n-propyl bromide.



3

Let matrix dry. Remove coarse material  
and delicate fossils by hand.



4

Matrix is placed in a one gallon  
bucket and taken to the Fossil  
Lab.



5

Matrix is sorted in the Fossil Lab.

7x-45x microscope is used



6

Microfossils are catalogued  
and stored in the collections.

Catalogue number



7



Please note: some steps can happen simultaneously!