

Student Discussion Worksheet

Directions: Answer the first set of questions below. Then, after reading the online *Science News* article [“The Age of Dinosaurs may have ended in springtime,”](#) answer the second set of questions below. Your teacher may ask you to complete additional questions or the final prompt.

Understanding human bones

1. Name the two types of bone tissue. How do they differ?
2. What are bones made of? Name a few physical properties of bones based on their makeup?
3. What is the process by which human bones grow? Do they stop growing at some point?
4. Compare human bones with the bones of other animals. Name at least two differences.

Using bones as evidence

1. Based on the example in the *Science News* article, name two reasons why bones are a good source of evidence about past events?
2. Why do you think bone decomposes at a slower rate than other types of tissue? Refer to your answer to question 2 in the previous section to help you think about environmental factors that might speed up bone decomposition.
3. What evidence can bones provide about the human body? What types of claims could that evidence support?

4. Thinking beyond the individual, what can bones reveal about environment, ecology or evolutionary relationships?

Dig into the issue

Look through the March 26, 2022 issue of *Science News*, either in print or the [digital issue](#). Find another article that gives an example of how bones were used as evidence to support a scientific claim. Summarize the article and explain how bones were used as evidence. Note: You can also perform an archive search at www.sciencenews.org using “bones” as a search term.



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