



Read the story carefully. Then answer each question in a full sentence.

Leo's Dig Site Discovery

Leo loved field trips to the Natural History Museum's outdoor dig site.

Today, he pretended to be a paleontologist with a brush and shovel.

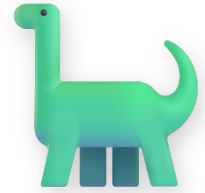
Leo carefully brushed away dirt, feeling like a detective searching for clues.

Suddenly, his brush hit something hard and smooth. It wasn't a rock! "Wow, look at this!" Leo whispered, heart thumping. Ms. Chen hurried over. She gasped. Leo had uncovered a fossilized plate.

Ms. Chen explained it looked like a plate from a Stegosaurus. "Stegosauruses were amazing plant-eaters," she told the class. "They had large, bony plates along their backs to help control body temperature! They also had a powerful, spiked tail called a thagomizer for defense." Leo imagined the giant creature.

Leo spent the afternoon uncovering the fossil. The rough, ancient bone felt incredible under his fingertips. He pictured the Stegosaurus roaming ancient lands. It was thrilling to touch something so old.

By the end of the day, Leo felt a deep connection to the past. He realized being a paleontologist was about uncovering ancient stories. He couldn't wait to learn more about dinosaurs and their world.



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

(1) Who is the main character in the story, and where does the story mostly take place?



(2) What specific dinosaur fossil did Leo uncover, and what did he first notice about it?

(3) What two facts did Ms. Chen teach the class about Stegosaurus plates and their tails?

(4) How did Leo feel when he uncovered the fossil, and what words from the story show his feelings?

(5) What is one big idea this story shares about being a paleontologist or learning about the past?

