



Have  
Adventures



30 minutes



Give it a go

### Take it further

You can do this activity outdoors and bury the fossils in sand or soil. You can re-use the food afterwards for other activities – but don't eat it!

## RAINBOWS

# Dino detectives

### What you'll need:

- Sticky notes – one per girl
- Glue or sticky tack
- Dried pasta of varied shapes – four pieces per girl
- A large bag of rice
- A large bag of flour
- A square washing-up bowl or deep baking tray – one per group
- Small bowls – one per group
- Spoons – one per group
- Paintbrushes/toothbrushes – one per group

### Aim of activity

Dig up the dirt on dinosaurs and become totally roar-some palaeontologists!

**1** Does anyone know what a palaeontologist is? They discover fossils and often dig up dinosaur bones from thousands

of years ago. Grab a sticky note and four pasta shapes to get creating your own fossil.

**2** Arrange your pasta shapes into a dinosaur footprint shape, like in the picture below. Glue them onto your sticky note. You've created your dinosaur fossil.

**3** Get into groups of four and put all your dinosaur fossils at the bottom of your bowl. Your leader will cover your fossils with a layer of flour, and then a layer of rice. Make sure all your dinosaur fossils are covered.

**4** Swap bowls with another group. You're now going to dig up their dinosaur fossils!

**5** Take turns to slowly scoop the rice into the smaller bowl. Be careful not to disturb the layer of flour! If you aren't scooping, watch carefully to see what might be discovered...

**6** Grab a paintbrush and take turns to carefully brush the flour to the side of the bowls. What have you discovered?

**7** What do you think a dinosaur could be called with a footprint like this? Lots of dinosaur names end in '-asaurus'. Think of a name for the fossil you found and draw what your dinosaur could look like.



**TOP TIP**  
Palaeontologists dig very slowly and carefully to make sure they don't damage any of the fossils they are discovering