

Canine Skeletal System

For this project, you will need the template at NomadPress.net/Templates

Georges Cuvier spent a lot of time studying the bones of animals. By looking closely at these bones, he was able to learn a lot about what the animal was like when it was alive. Can you piece together the bones on the template and discover what kind of animal they belong to?

Note: When you are finished, check the answer in the resources section.

First, look at the different bones. What can you tell about the animal by looking at its teeth? What do you notice about its feet? Do you think this animal walked on two legs or four? Before putting the skeleton together, can you predict what kind of animal this might be?

Cut out the different bones and put them together. When you are happy with your skeleton, secure it with tape.

Once you put the skeleton together, sketch out a body around it. Parts such as ears, skin, and fur would not be fossilized. Make a guess about these parts of the animal and what they looked like.

Assume that an inch equals a foot. How big do you think this animal was when it was alive?

CONSIDER THIS: What kind of animal do these bones belong to? Think about animals you are familiar with that have the same kind of teeth and feet. Also think about animals that would be about the same size. Would this project have been more difficult if some of the bones were missing?