



# Geologic Wonders of Texas

## Dinosaur Tracks Activity 1

**Making your own tracks: a do-it-yourself experiment.**

**Purpose:**

To investigate the kind of information that you can get from footprints.

**Method:**

Make some of your own tracks under controlled conditions and determine whether tracks record conditions.

**Materials needed:**

Tape measure or yardstick and notebook plus

- (a) large roll of craft or butcher paper, washable water-based paint, pan for dipping feet, clean-up water, and paper towels **or**
- (b) flour, flour sifter, broom and dustpan, clean-up towels.

**Procedure:**

1. (a) For tracks on craft or butcher paper: prepare paint and pour into a flat pan that is large enough for bare feet. Roll out 10 to 15 feet of paper.  
(b) For making tracks using flour: use the sifter to dust flour on the floor (this is especially fun with a large group of trackers).
2. Make a list of the different ways that you can move across the trackway and give each way a number: walking, running; adult prints, child prints, for example.
3. Start walking! Make each type of trackway and record its number so that you can tell one from another. Measure the characteristics of each trackway. What is the size of the print? What is the spacing between prints? Do the prints look the same or are they different? Look at all the parts of the foot.