PENN DIXIE SCAVENGER HUNT @ REINSTEIN WOODS



FIRST, PULL UP THE REINSTEIN WOODS TRAIL MAP ON YOUR PHONE OR TAKE A PAPER TRAIL MAP FROM THE KIOSK IN THE PARKING LOT.

START YOUR JOURNEY

BEGIN AT THE RAISED GARDEN BED NEAR THE EDUCATION CENTER. ITS STONE WALLS ARE MADE FROM LIMESTONE HARVESTED FROM A QUARRY NEAR REINSTEIN WOODS. CAN YOU FIND ANY INTERESTING SHAPES IN THE ROCK? THIS PRACTICE WILL HELP YOU LATER IN THE SCAVENGER HUNT.



FROM HERE, VENTURE TO THE TRAIL WHERE YOU CAN DISCOVER "CHARACTERS" THAT REPRESENT NEW YORK STATE. (HINT: USE THE TRAIL MAP NAMES TO DETERMINE WHICH TRAIL.) WHEN YOU ARRIVE, FIND THE SEA SCORPION WHICH USED TO LIVE ON THE BOTTOM OF THE OCEAN FLOOR.

ALTHOUGH THERE ARE NO EURYPTERID, OR SEA SCORPION, FOSSILS HERE AT REINSTEIN WOODS NATURE PRESERVE, OTHER FOSSILIZED ANIMALS THAT LIVED DURING THE TIME OF THE EURYPTERID CAN BE FOUND.

Why do some plants and animals get fossilized, while others do not? Think about what parts of the plants and animals are most likely to be preserved.



GO!

TRAVEL TO THE STONE STRUCTURE BUILT BY DR. VICTOR REINSTEIN IN 1965 WHICH IS LOCATED NEAR THE WATER'S EDGE.

Limestone is a strong sedimentary rock made up of marine organisms and their excrement. Because limestone is so strong, it is often used as a building material. Draw your attention to the chalk circles on opposite corners of the stone house. Go in for a closer look, use a magnifying glass if you have one. How many fossils can you find? These fossils are evidence of the area's ancient marine past.

FOSSILS TO BE FOUND

SMALL CIRCULAR SHAPES THAT RESEMBLE CHEERIOS ARE CRINOID STEMS, OR SEA LILIES.





SHAPES THAT RESEMBLE MODERN DAY CLAMS ARE BRACHIOPODS.

LARGER WHITE SHAPES
THAT LOOK LIKE BICYCLE
WHEEL SPOKES ARE
CORALS.



The fossils in the limestone are approximately 380 million years old

HOORAY!

YOU'VE JUST DISCOVERED SOME CREATURES THAT LIVED ALONGSIDE THE EURYPTERID IN AN ANCIENT SEA THAT COVERED REINSTEIN WOODS.

From the stone house, head across the big dam and through the woods back to the Reinstein Woods Education Center. Along the way, think about life in an ancient sea - how is it different than life underwater today?

As you approach the Education Center, return to the garden surrounded by limestone, where you started. Alongside the garden you'll find a large flat stone; lift it up to reveal your own fossilized coral specimen that you can take home!

PENN DIXIE FOSSIL PARK & NATURE RESERVE IS THRILLED TO ONCE AGAIN PARTNER WITH REINSTEIN WOODS NATURE PRESERVE AND CELEBRATE THEIR 20TH FALL FESTIVAL.

Please visit Penn Dixie Fossil Park & Nature Reserve at www.penndixie.org