

The Mammoth Site  
Division of Education



# I Can Dig Big!

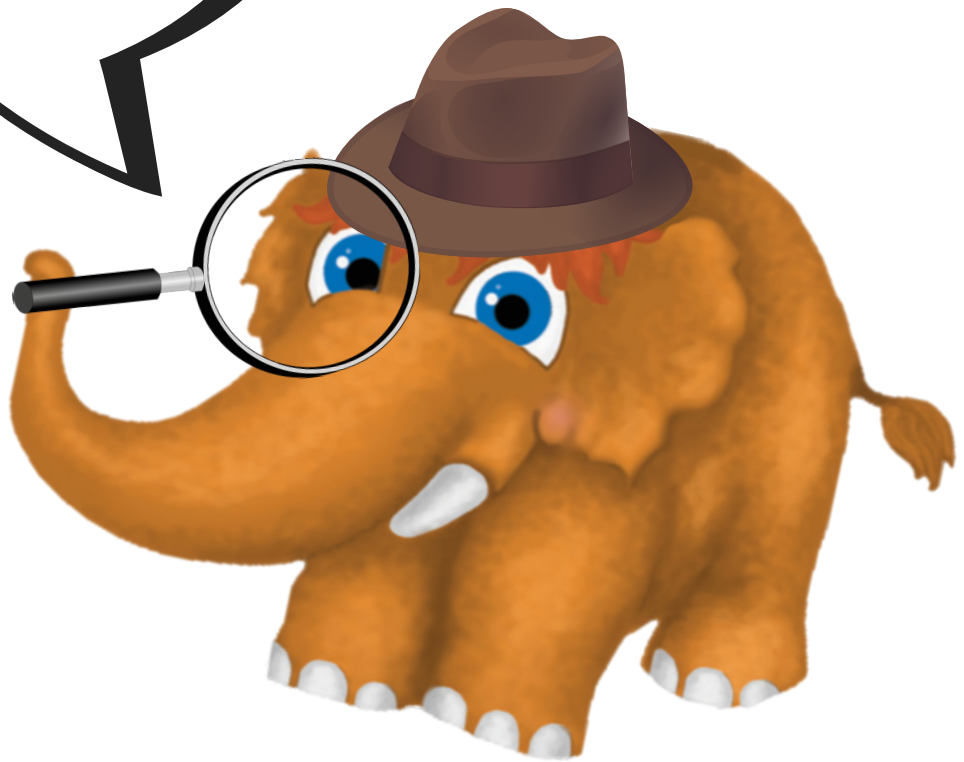
## Activity Book



Ages 4-8

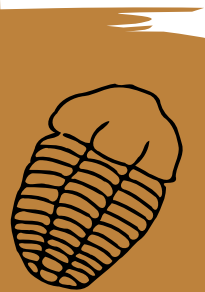
# Welcome to The Mammoth Site!

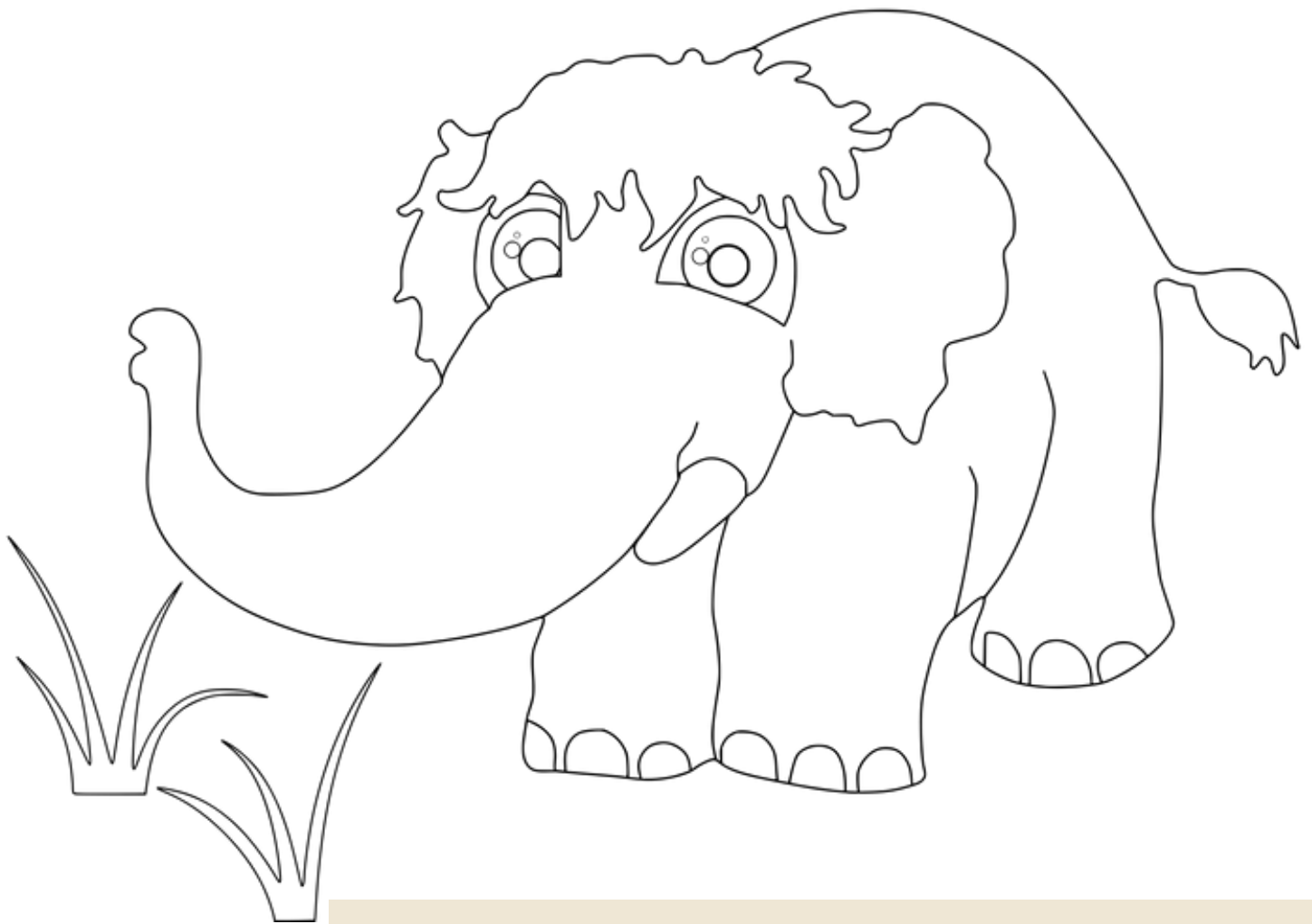
**Hello! My name is Matilda  
Mammoth and I dream of being a  
Paleontologist! What is your  
name?**



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Name \_\_\_\_\_

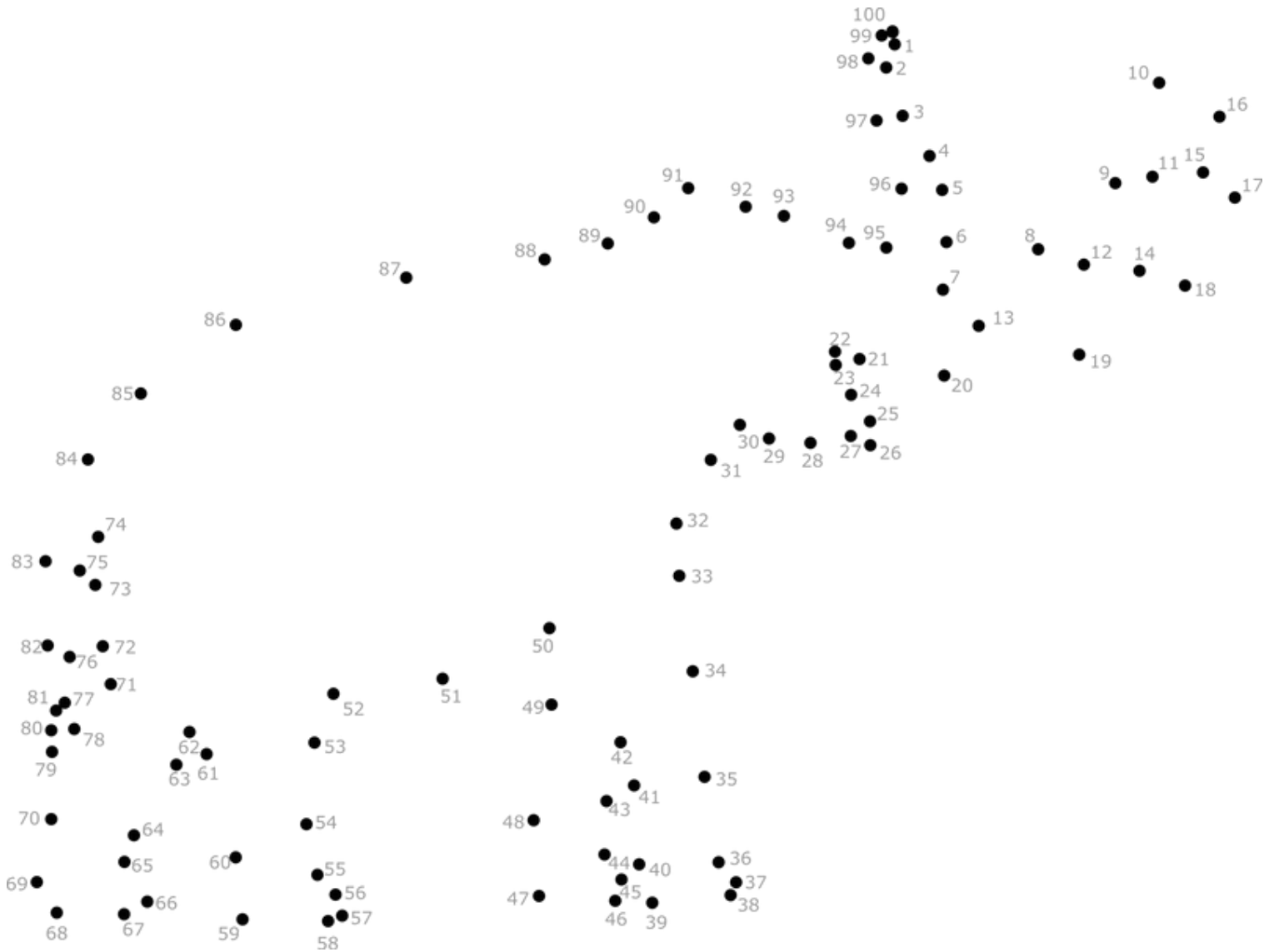




**I am a young woolly mammoth who lived in Hot Springs, South Dakota during the Ice Age. Please color me **brown** and shaggy. My tusks are like your teeth, color my teeth white like your teeth! Lastly, could you please add lots of **green** grass for me to eat?**



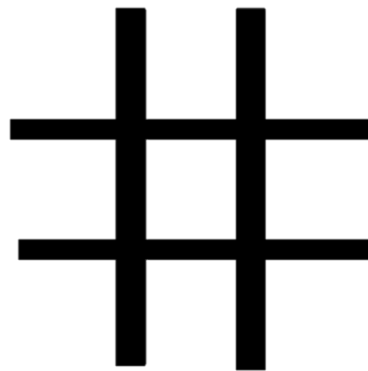
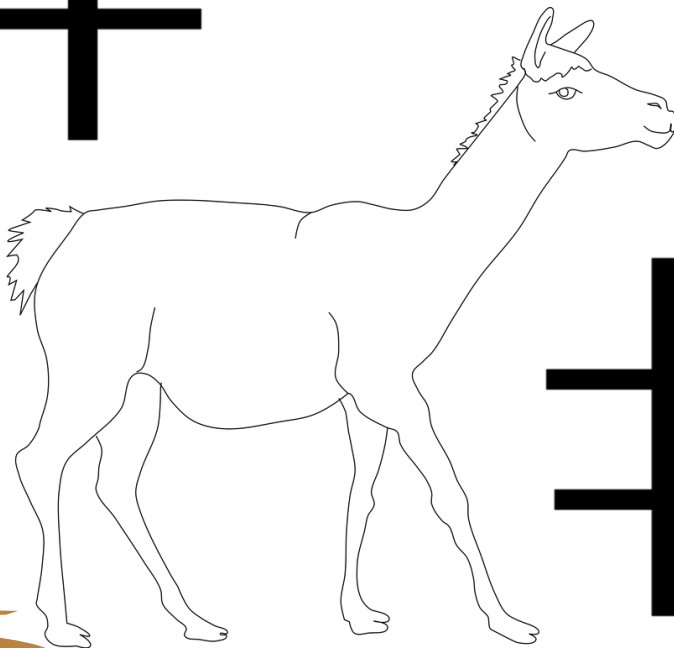
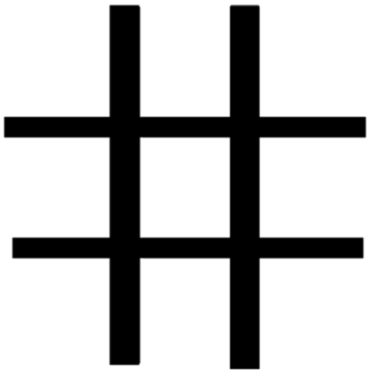
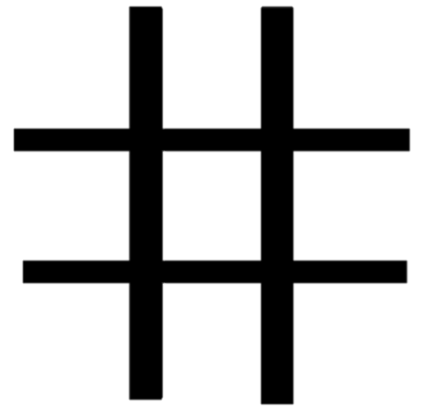
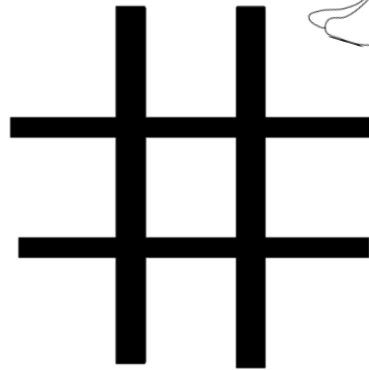
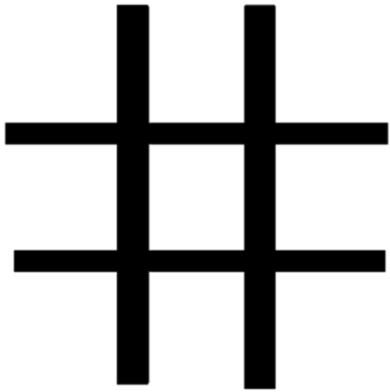
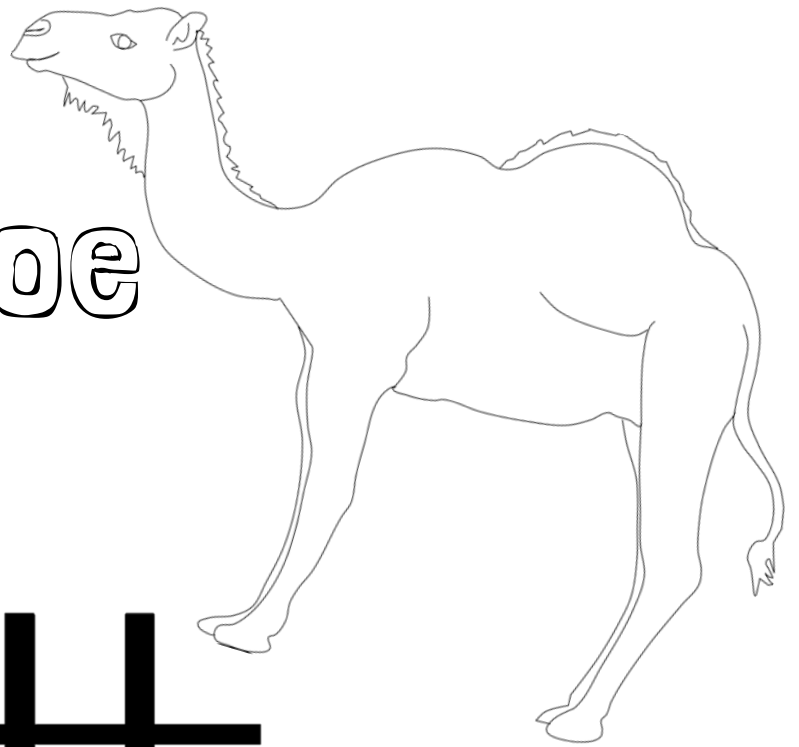
# Columbian Mammoth



**In 1974, pieces of mammoth tusk were discovered by a construction worker digging into the hillside to build houses in Hot Springs, South Dakota. Can you connect the numbered dots to see the Columbian mammoth when it lived about 140,000 years ago?**



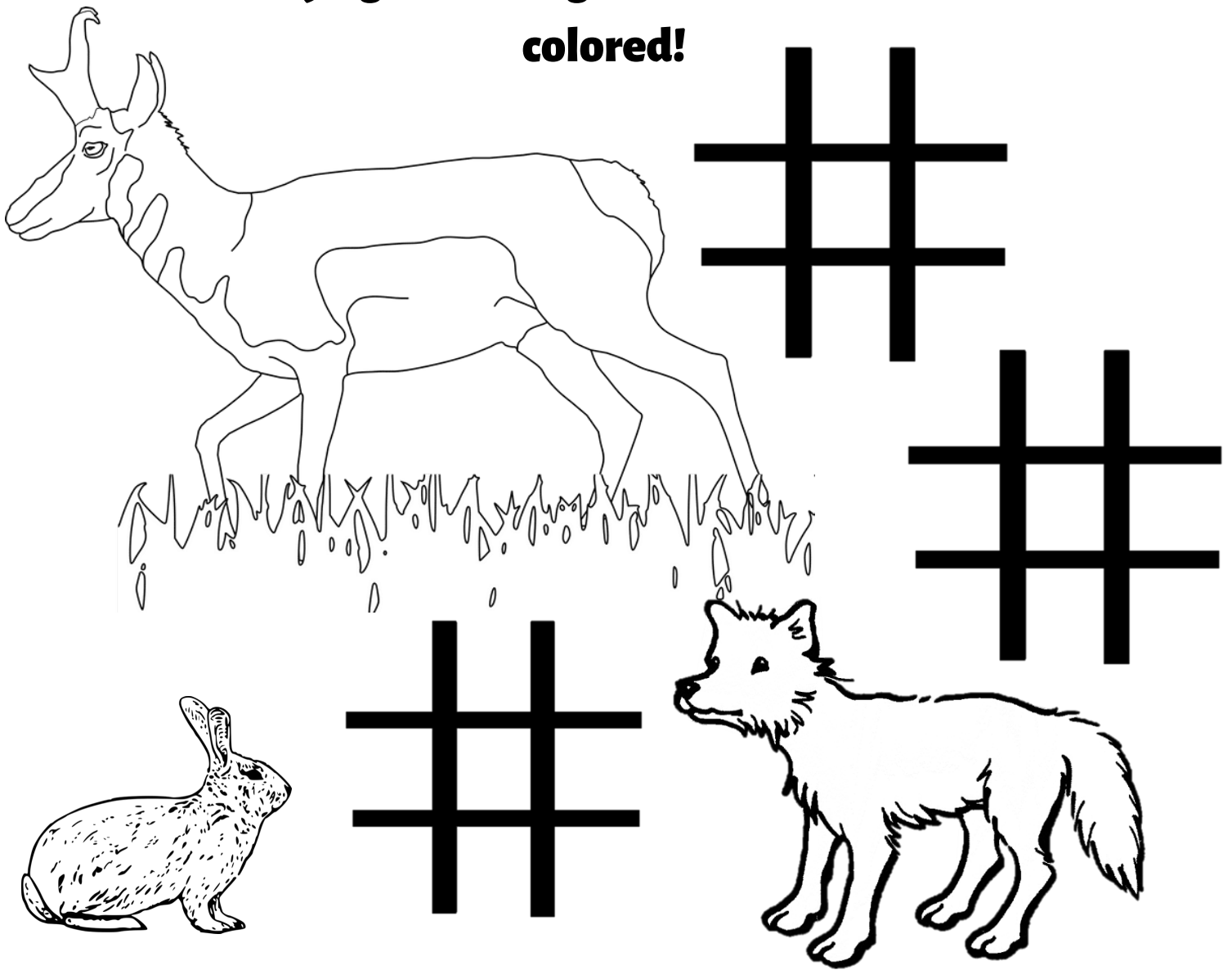
# Tic - Tac - Toe



**Do you know how to play  
Tic Tac Toe? First, ask  
someone to play. Next,  
ask: do you want to be X or  
O? Then, ask them to go  
first! Remember, take  
turns until one of you gets  
3 in a row!**



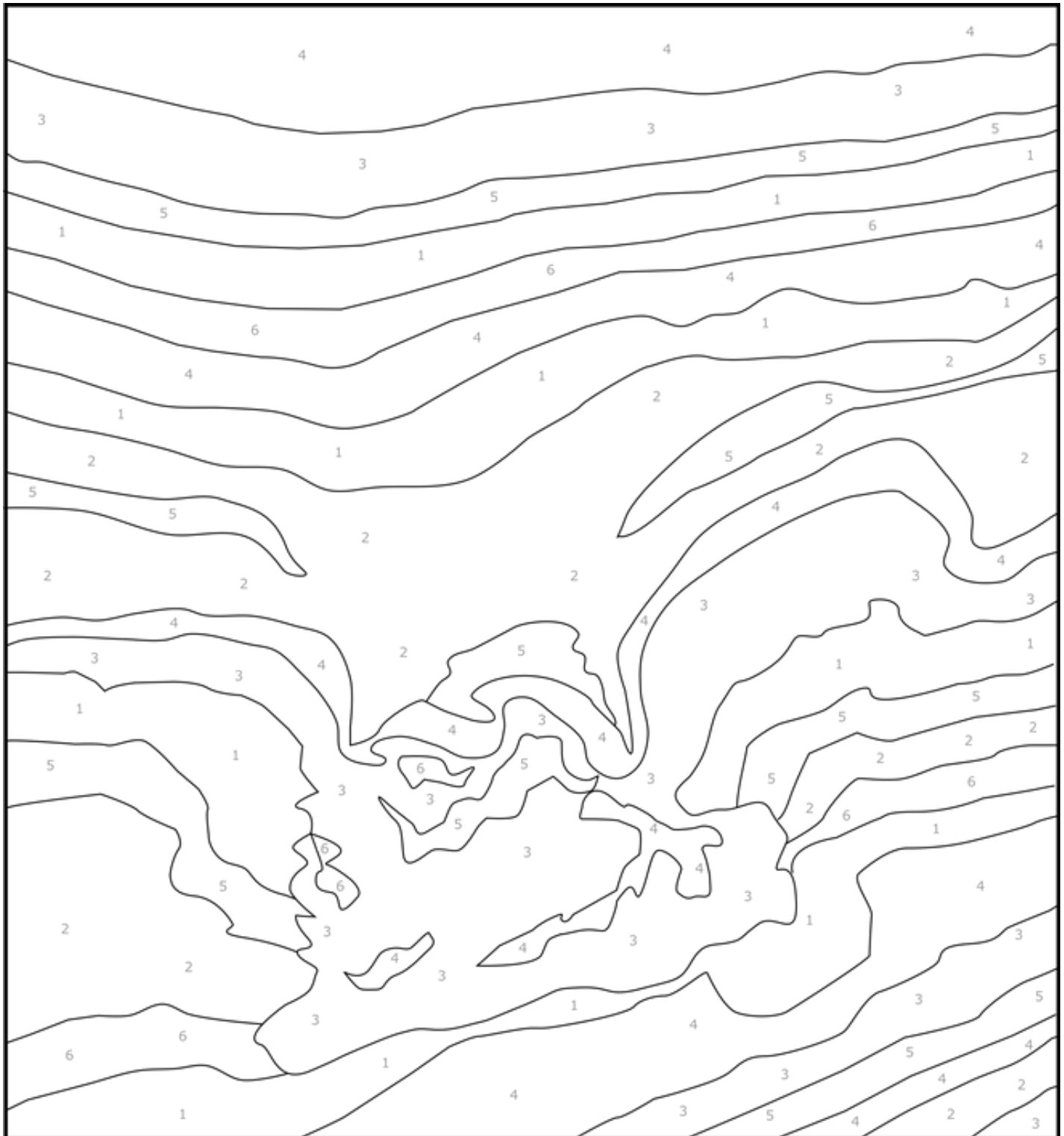
**The winner picks the camel, llama, pronghorn, or coyote to color. Play again and again until all the animals are colored!**



**For the past 40-some years, paleontologists, geologists and volunteers have carefully dug in the Sinkhole. Because so many different small and large animal bones in addition to mammoths are discovered, an Accredited Museum of Natural History was built over it! Although mammoths are extinct, we can find living llamas, camels, antelope, prairie dogs, coyotes, wolves, rabbits, squirrels, mice, voles and raptors in today's world.**





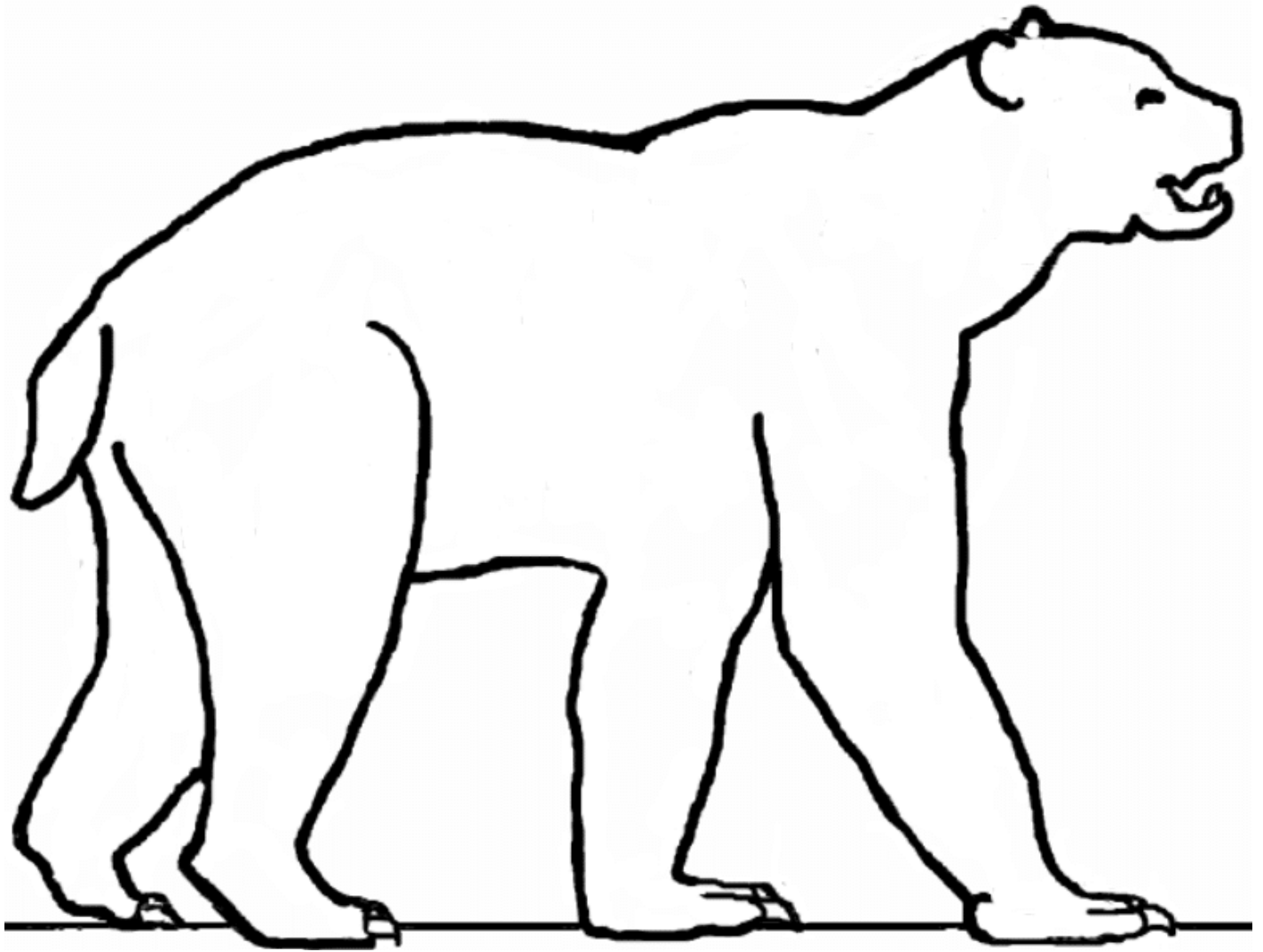


As climate changed over the past 140,000 years, many layers of the earth adapted to changing temperatures. Color all the (1s) **brown**, (2s) **beige**, (3s) **gray**, (4s) **light brown**, (5s) **yellow**, and all the (6s) **orange**.

Can you find the mammoth foot print?



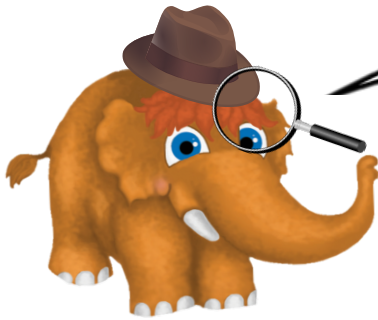
# Giant Short-Faced Bear



**Two giant short-faced bears were uncovered among the hundreds of mammoth bones. These giant bears were omnivores with long claws and a mouthful of teeth. Can you color the giant short-faced bear **brown** with a black nose and mouth. What color will you make the claws?**



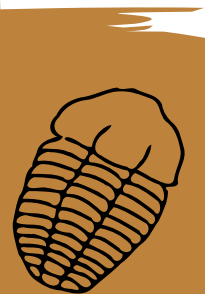




Can you help me  
find these  
Mammoth Site  
words?

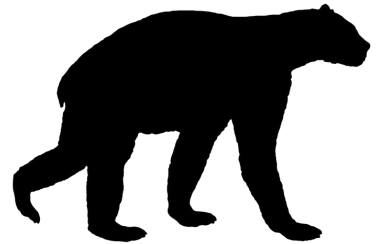
- BEAR
- BONES
- CLAM
- COLUMBIAN
- COYOTE
- FOSSILS
- JACKRABBIT
- LLAMA
- MAMMOTH
- PALEONTOLOGISTS
- ROCKS
- TUSKS
- WOOLLY

M S S E X Z V I L U K T V M A  
 H T M A F R V R M L I Y G A M  
 Z S F L C O L U M B I A N M A  
 V I G O J J S Y B N C U F M L  
 N G X H S K S A H Q P E Y O L  
 X O G C C S R E V B V L C T G  
 L L X O W K I R N Z E F K H X  
 F O R B C Y L L O O W A M X C  
 M T L A Z V W G S Y B A R M L  
 F N J D Q E T X H K O D A C A  
 K O A J N P D Q K B K X O G M  
 Q E T U S K S M J G A Y L K O  
 B L U K S K M I I O O F V C V  
 B A L W V I E H A T O E J T X  
 X P K H Q E J D E B Y D Y P V

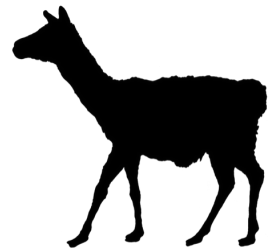


# Matching

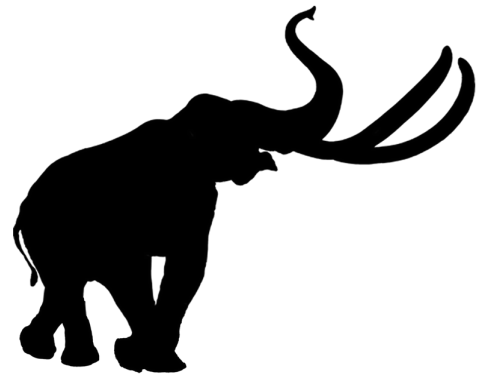
**Mammoth**



**Camel**



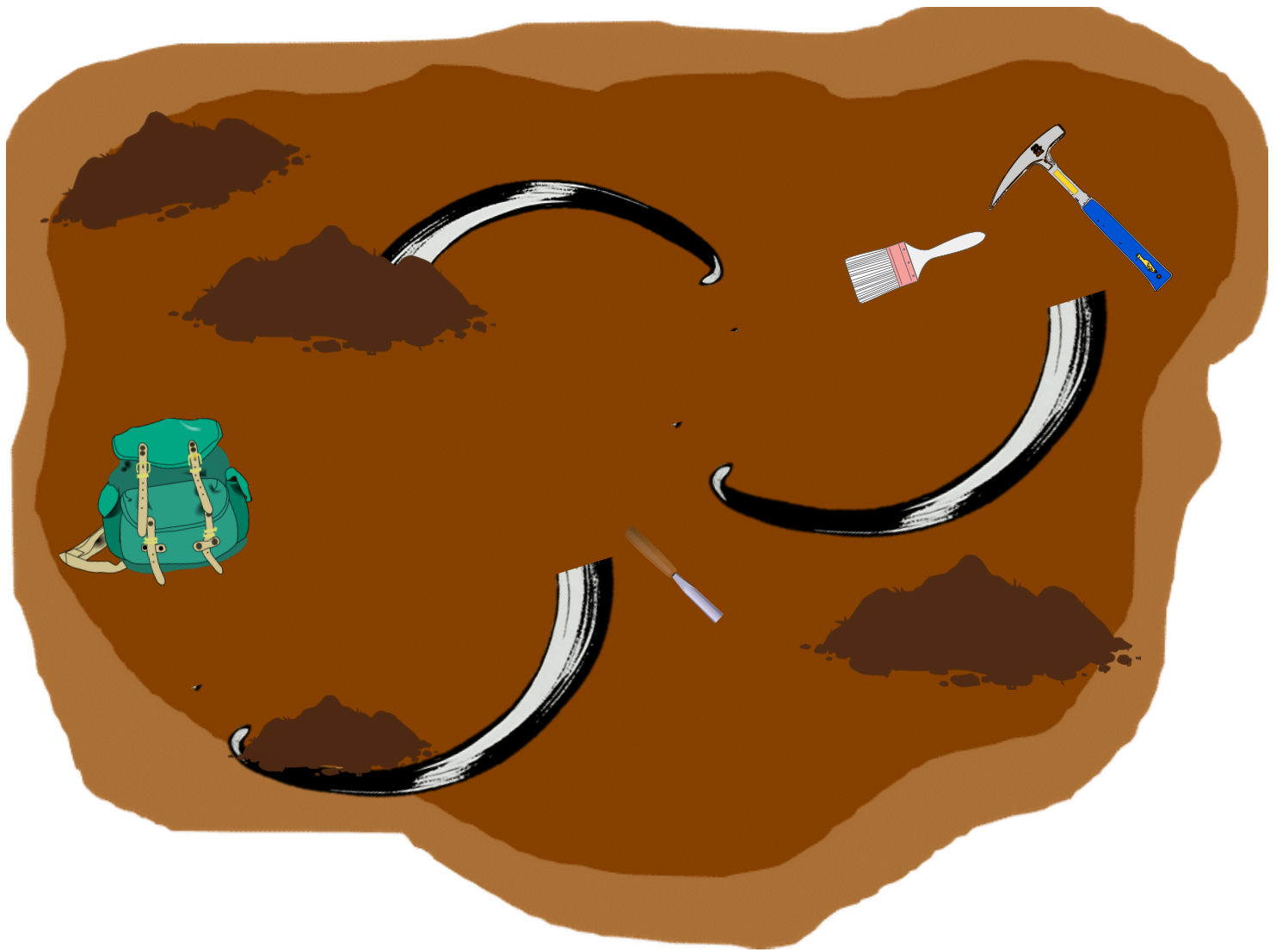
**Giant short-faced bear**



**Llama**



# Mammoth Bones

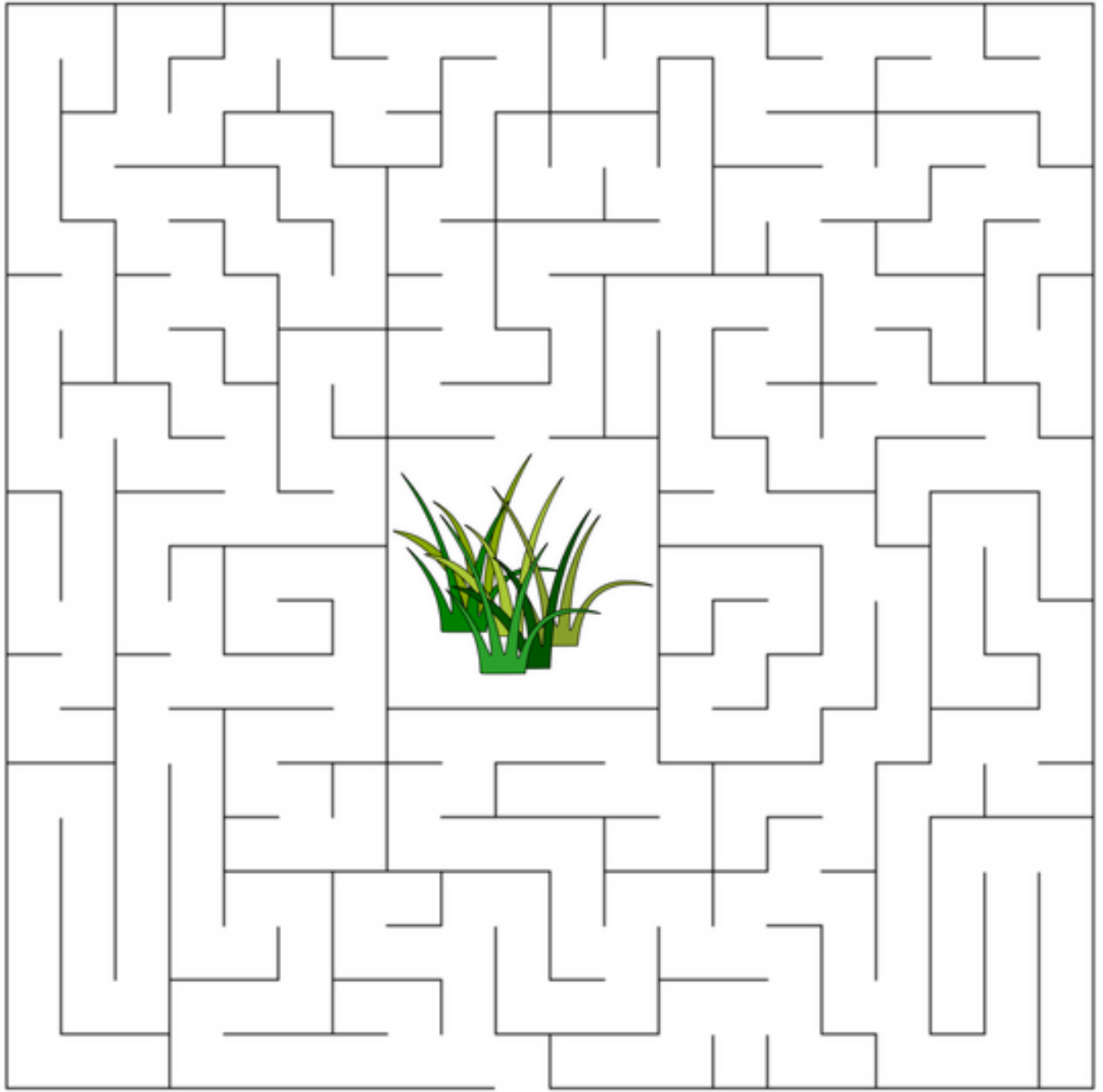


**This Bonebed is filled with mammoth bones and paleontology tools!!  
Can you find all the mammoth tusks and circle them?**

**How many tusks did you find? \_\_\_\_\_**

**If each mammoth had two tusks, how many buried mammoths are  
found in this sinkhole? \_\_\_\_\_**

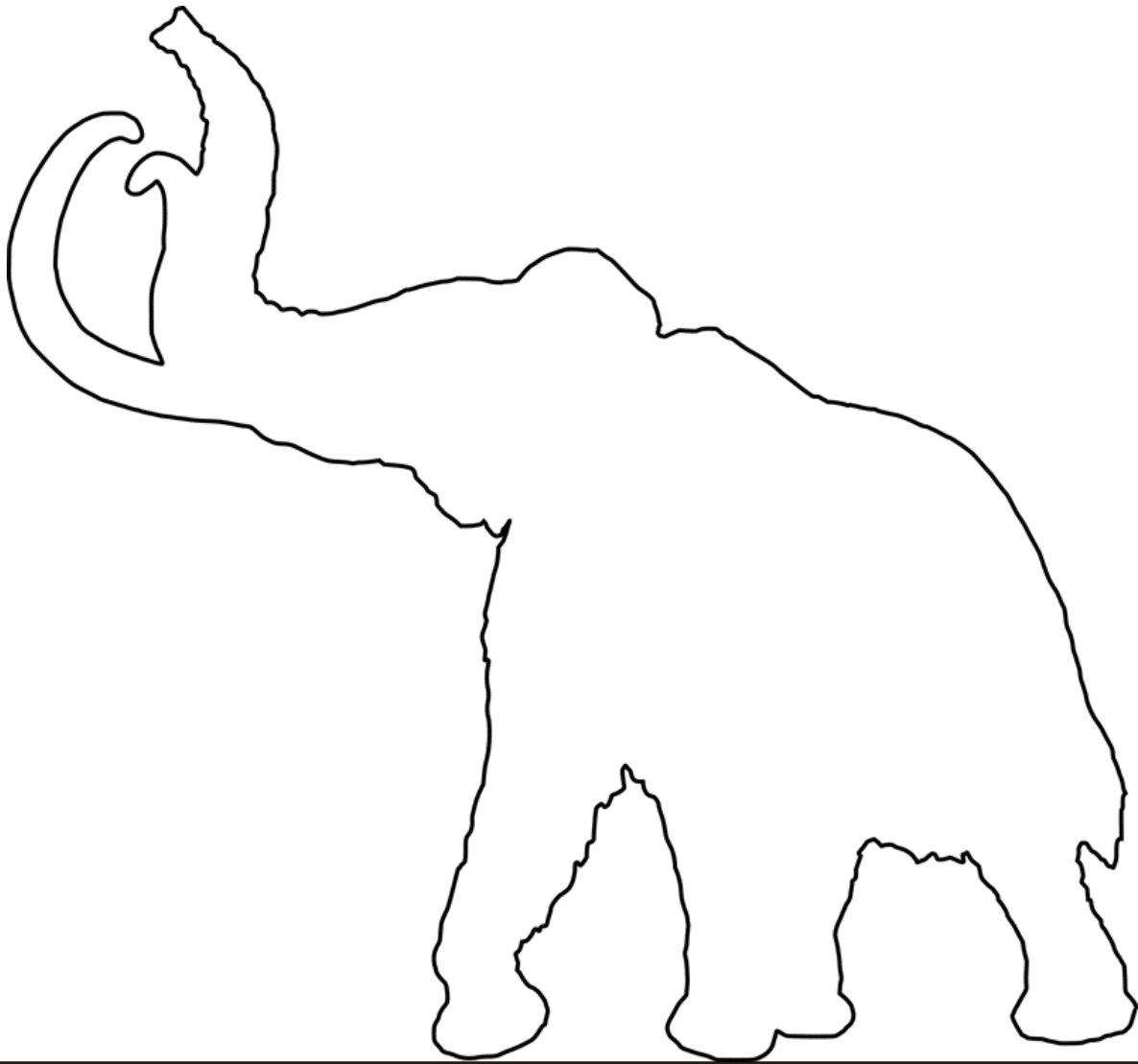




**Mammoths ate tons of wild grasses  
as they walked around  
during the Ice Age. Help Matilda  
find lunch!**



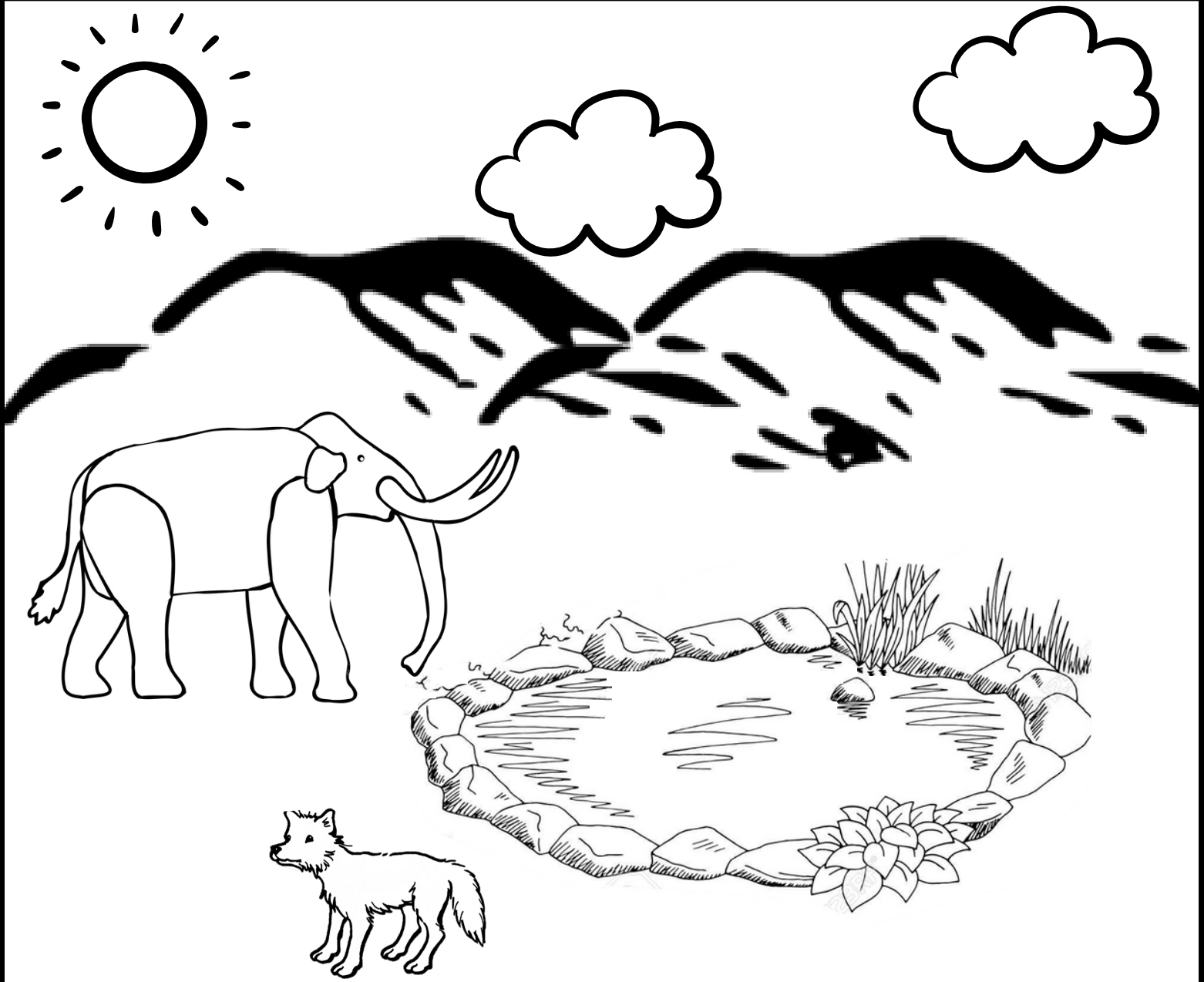
# Woolly Mammoth



**Do you know that 3 woolly mammoths were discovered at The Mammoth Site? Can you give it lots of long, wavy hair? Did you know that woolly mammoths lived more than 140,000 years ago?**



# Color the Sinkhole





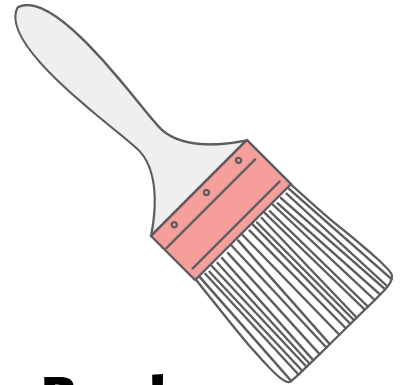
# Matching

**Help Matilda discover what kinds of tools paleontologists use. Paleontologists use many different tools to find and clean fossils. Can you match the photos of the tools used at The Mammoth Site with its description?**



**Trowel**

1. Wipe away sediment from Mammoth Bones



**Brush**

2. Wrap up Mammoth bone before plaster



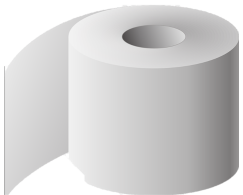
**Shovel**

3. Remove sediment around a bone



**Notebook**

4. Keep notes to describe bones



**Toilet Paper**

5. Carefully pick grains of sediment from a bone

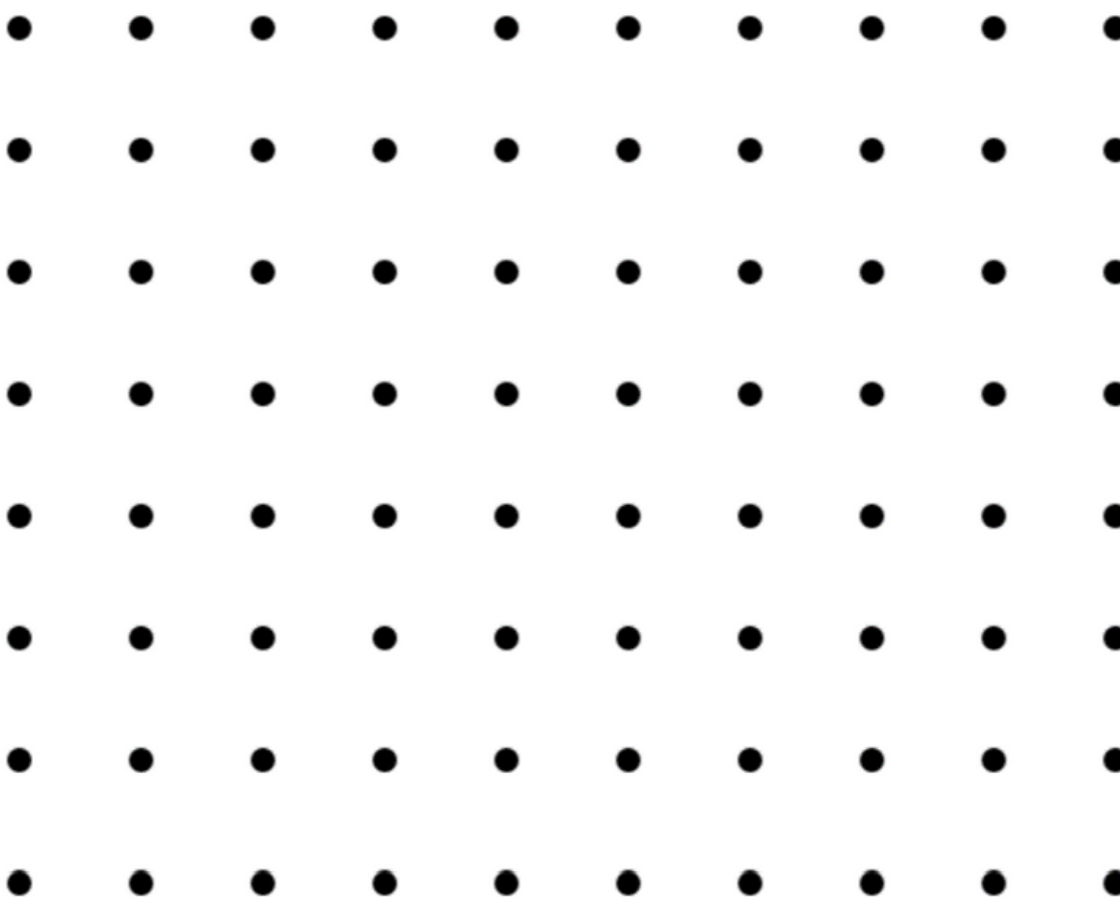
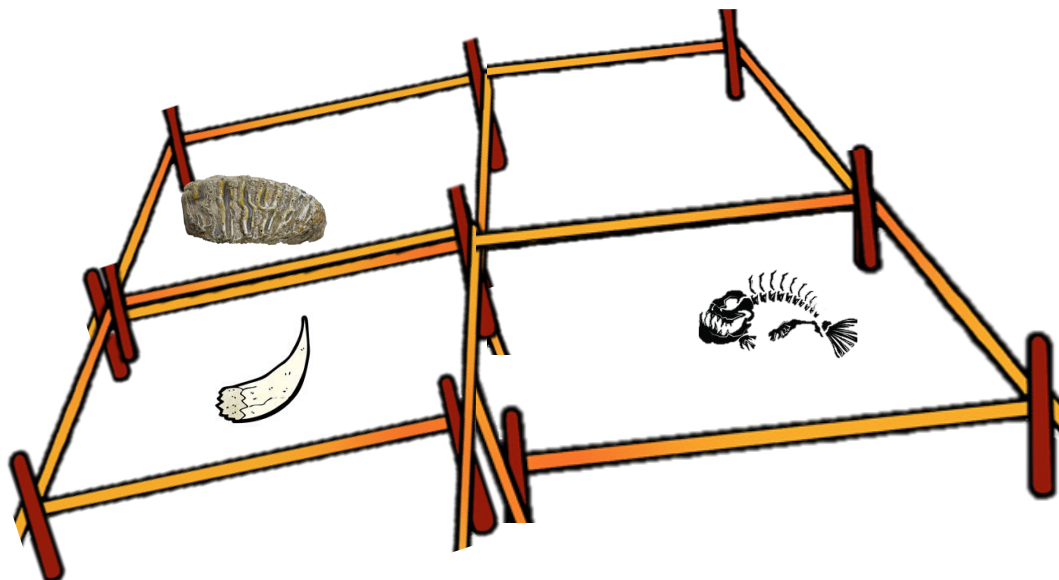


**Dental Pick**

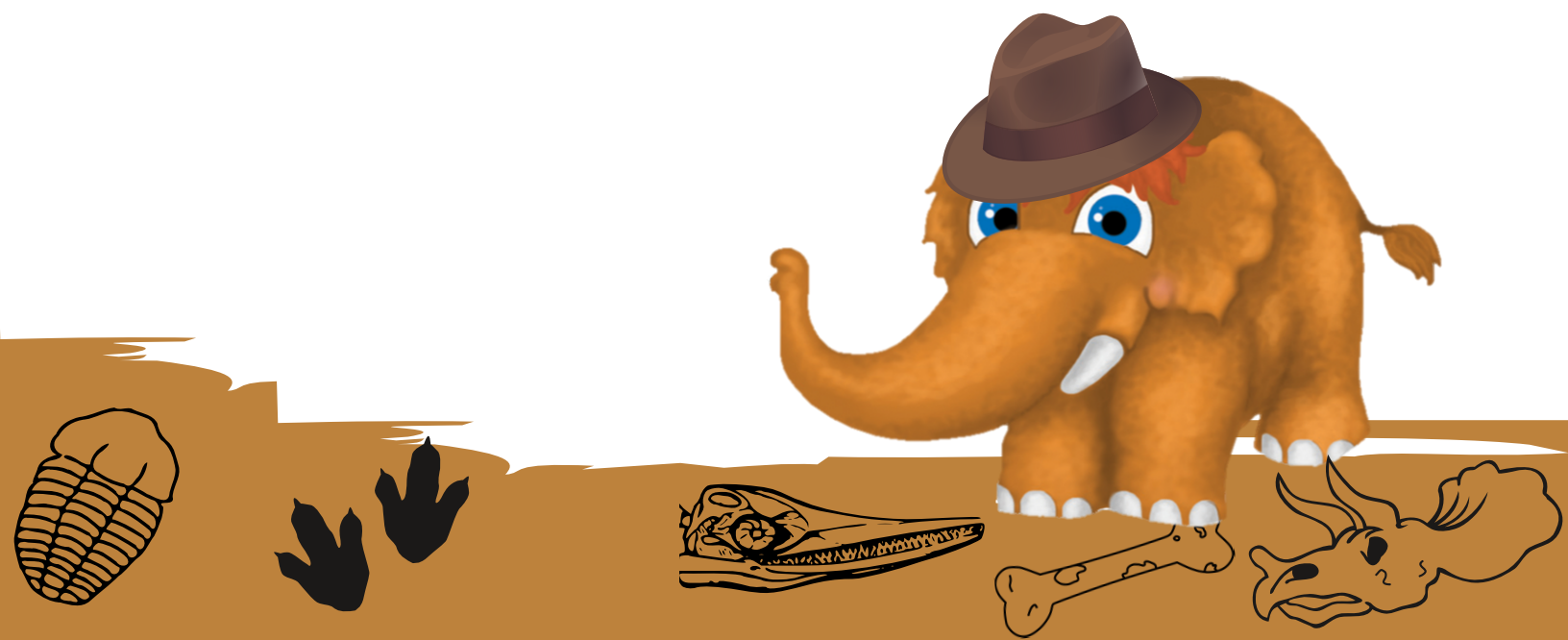
6. Dig large holes, quickly



**You can help the paleontologists at The Mammoth Site by connecting the dots. Ask a partner to play, use different colored markers to take turns connecting dots to make as many squares as possible to show how paleontologists map a dig site. The player with the most squares wins!**



**Draw yourself as a paleontologist with Matilda.**



# Make Your Own Fossils

**You can make your own fossils right at home! Ask a parent for help and follow this recipe. Your adventure starts here!**

## **Supplies:**

- **2 cups flour (use wheat flour to make a darker dough that looks more natural)**
- **1 cup salt**
- **1/2 cup warm water**
- **small plastic animals, insects, or leaves, etc.**

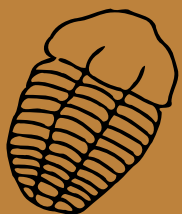
## **Directions:**

**Step 1: Mix the flour, salt and warm water together to make the salt dough.**

**Step 2: Make a small ball of dough, then press it flat with the palm of your hand.**

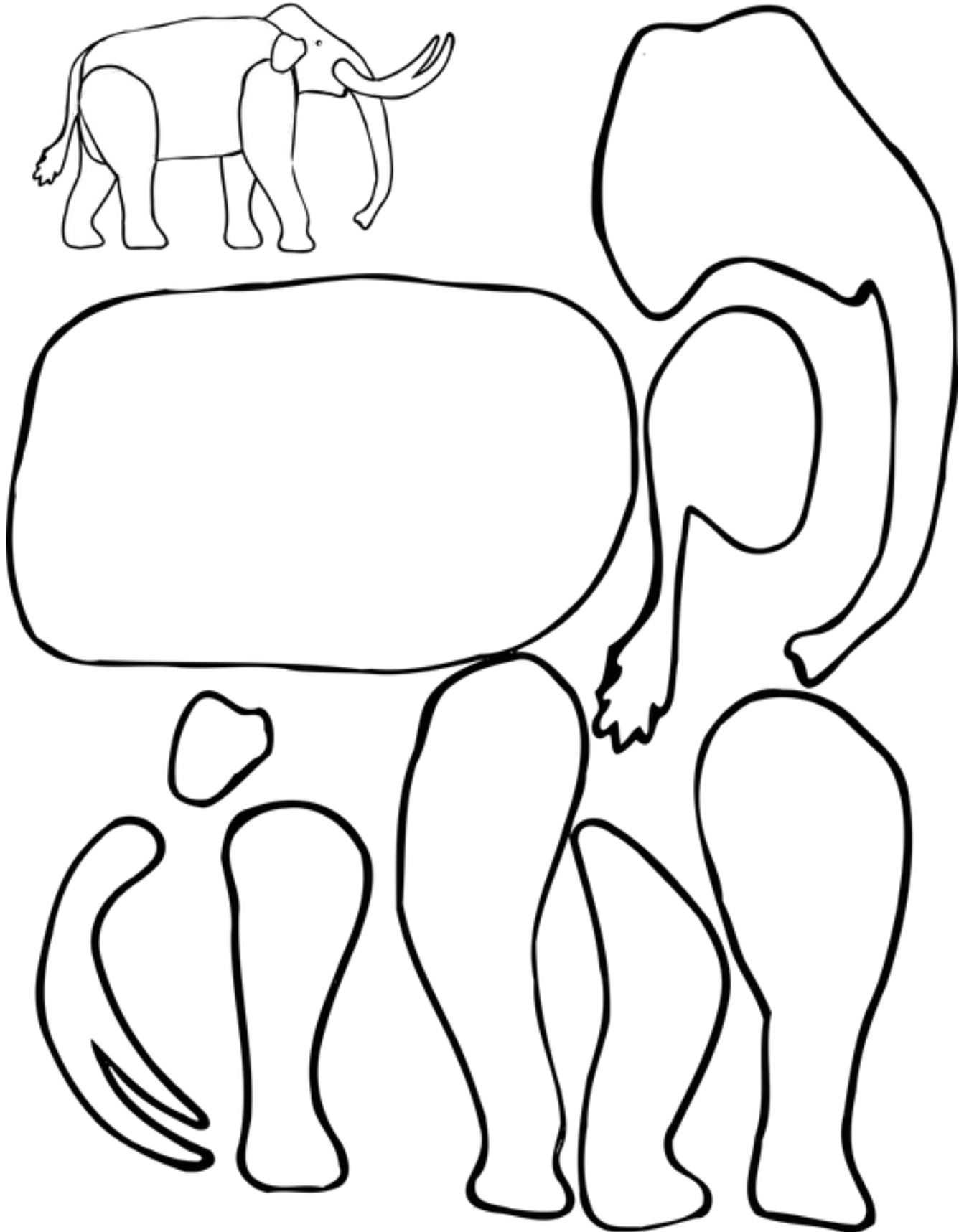
**Step 3: Gently press a small toy into the dough. Then, gently remove the small object to reveal its impression!**

**Step 4: Arrange your “fossils” on a baking sheet and bake at 250 degrees for 1-2 hours. Remove once they are hard.**



# Make Your Own Mammoth!

**For this activity, its okay to ask an adult to help you cut out the mammoth body parts! Use glue sticks to attach the pieces together to look like the mammoth pictured (some pieces need to be glued in the front and some behind). Add an eye and decorate your mammoth!**





**The Mammoth Site of Hot Springs, South Dakota takes visitors back over 140,000 years into the Ice Age. Named the 'Best Museum in South Dakota' by USA Today.com, The Mammoth Site offers a 30 minute guided tour. Walk by the edges of a sinkhole where Columbian and woolly mammoths, camels, wolves and giant short-faced bears became trapped, leaving an ancient treasure trove of fossil remains. This active working excavation site features the fossils of over 60 mammoths and more! Apart from active excavation and research, The Mammoth Site offers a wide variety of educational programming for all ages.**



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