

## **Black Hills Museum of Natural History**

Hill City, 117 Main Street

This museum is a fantastic museum of real dinosaur skeletons. These are the folks that dug up the famous t-rex called Sue that is seen in the Field Museum in Chicago. You can't see Sue but you can view Stan another t-rex. This museum is treasure trove of fossils, well worth the stop!

Have you considered

.....how a dinosaur fossil is made. A fossil is a rock. It takes very special conditions to make a rock or fossil. Think about this, what happens to a dead animal? Scavengers eat it; bugs and bacteria cause it to rot and decay, eventually leaving no remains behind. It takes very special conditions in order to make a fossil. Here is the general fossil recipe:

1. Fast coverage by sediment. So, scavengers and bacteria don't eat it.
2. Deep coverage by sediment so no oxygen is present to start decay.
3. Lots and lots of water so the minerals can seep into the bone and turn it into stone.

What event in history had fast, deep coverage with lots of water? The Flood of Noah's time. Every time a dinosaur fossil is dug up, it is a reminder of the Genesis Flood. Fossils remind us of God's judgment and God's mercy. God's judgment in that He destroyed the entire world with a worldwide flood because it was so wicked. God's mercy in that He saved Noah and his family on the Ark. Every time a dinosaur bone is dug up, it reminds us of God's judgment and God's mercy; fossilized dinosaur bones are really missionaries to the world.

Did you know dinosaurs are mentioned in the Bible? They were not called dinosaurs but dragons. As you stand in front of an Apatosaurus (long neck dinosaur) read from Job 40:6-24. See Stave Church reading.