

# National Fossil Day

## at the Dunn-Seiler Museum



~~~~~Department of Geosciences, Mississippi State University~~~~~

During Earth Science Week (October 8-14), we celebrate the seventh National Fossil Day on **October 11, 2017**. This year, the National Fossil Day logo features an early fish of the Paleozoic Era.

The Dunn-Seiler Museum's Fossil Art & Story Contest also focuses upon the fish of ancient Mississippi—including the notorious Cretaceous “bulldog fish” and sharks! Our National Fossil Day contest invites you to sketch, draw, or create one of the ancient fish that swam in Mississippi's waters over the last 400 million years. Our Mississippi's Geologic Timeline can help you get started: <http://www.geosciences.msstate.edu/dunn-seiler-museum/resources/>

### Fossil Art Contest (Categories: grades K-4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>)

- Create a model or draw a picture recreating life with an ancient fish of Mississippi. Please remember to identify *what* your ancient fish is, and *when* it lived.

### Fossil Story Contest (Categories: grades 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>)

- Alternatively, if you would rather write an episode about a fish's life in Mississippi, please submit a short story that is 1500 words or less. Be sure to identify when your ancient organism(s) lived!

**Completed art work and stories are due by October 6, 2017.**

*Submissions will be judged on creativity and accuracy.*

Winners in each grade category (in both art and story competitions) will be awarded.

The Dunn-Seiler Museum hosts school groups for tours, and fossil collecting at our local Cretaceous outcrop. Please check our website for more information. Tours can be scheduled through the MSU Visitors Center, 662.325.5203.

