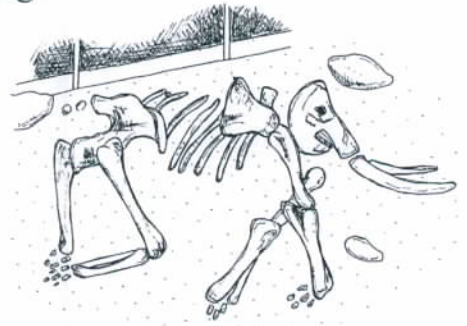


# Mammoth Site

## Review Key Words

- site** A site is the place or location of something.
- sinkhole** A sinkhole is an opening in the ground. A sinkhole is often deep and filled with water.
- museum** A museum is a place that has beautiful, interesting, or unusual things to look at.
- fossils** Fossils are what is left of plants and animals that have been dead a very long time.



## Write a Prediction

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## Read the Story<sup>2-4</sup>

6 The **sinkhole** was about 60 feet  
 13 deep. It was filled with warm water  
 18 and plants. Large animals walked  
 25 into the sinkhole to eat and drink.  
 32 The animals could not get out, so  
 38 they died there. The sinkhole filled  
 45 with mud and dried up. The animals  
 stayed buried for about 26,000 years.

51 In 1974, some workers **uncovered**  
 56 the animals. Scientists came to the  
 62 **site** to study them. The scientists  
 68 learned many things about the  
 73 animals.

74 What kind of animals were they?  
 80 They were **ice-age** animals. Many of

87 them were mammoths. Mammoths  
 91 were huge **mammals**. They looked a  
 97 little bit like elephants. They had big  
 104 trunks and long **tusks**. But  
 109 mammoths **died out** thousands of  
 114 years ago.

116 The site where people found the  
 122 mammoths is now part of a **museum**.  
 129 Many people visit the Mammoth Site  
 135 each year. They come to see the  
 142 **fossils** of these **extinct** animals. This  
 148 museum is in Hot Springs, South  
 154 Dakota.  
 155

	day 1	day 2	day 3	day 4
words read in 1 minute				
- number of mistakes				
= total words read correctly				
adult initials				

# Mammoth Site

## Answer the Questions

1. What is the main idea of this story?
  - a. Many people visit the Mammoth Site in Hot Springs, South Dakota.
  - b. Ice-age animals called mammoths died in a sinkhole that is now part of a museum.
  - c. Animals that went to a sinkhole could not get out, so they died there.
2. For about how long did the animals stay buried?
  - a. 1,974 years
  - b. 60 years
  - c. 26,000 years
3. What does the word **extinct** mean in this story?
  - a. long tusks
  - b. uncovered
  - c. died out
4. Why did mammoths go to the sinkhole?
  - a. to get stuck in the mud
  - b. to drink water and eat plants
  - c. to see if elephants were there
5. How are elephants of today like the mammoths of long ago?

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## Parent Tips

Adult readers are fairly quick to read about 50,000 words—words that we see often enough that they are in our sight vocabulary. Struggling readers have very few words in their sight vocabulary, and they must spend a great deal of time and energy sounding out most of the words they read. Fluency instruction, therefore, should focus on helping students who already know how to sound out words to repeatedly read words (in real text) so they can read them quickly and automatically. Repeated reading with feedback is one of the best ways to do this, and silent reading for pleasure is another.

[www.balancedreading.com/fluency](http://www.balancedreading.com/fluency)

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