

The Deadly Sinkhole.

Report by Amy, pictures by Lynn.

A sinkhole is a pit so deep that the unfortunate animals who fall in cannot get out. Their body is then preserved by the deep mud.

A very important sinkhole is in Hot Springs, South Dakota in which about 50 perfectly preserved mammoth skeletons were uncovered, even the delicate tongue bones were in place!! Research shows that all the mammoths that died there, died in winter, when snow covered it, making it look perfectly harmless. The poor mammoths were probably tempted by the tender green shoots growing at the edge of the hot springs, they took one step towards them, and before they knew it they were at the bottom of the unclimbable pit.

Mammoth Traps

rock surrounding sinkhole

artesian spring

layer of sediment