Dinosaurs 1 A dragon is a dinosaur

Where do we see pictures of dragons today?





Flag of Wales

The Chinese dress up as dragons in their festivals. They have pictures of dragons in their restaurants.

When was the word 'dinosaur' invented?

The first dinosaur fossils were found in the 19th century. An Englishman, Richard Owen invented the name "dinosaur" in 1842. Dinosaur means "terrible lizard." Before this time these creatures were referred to in many cultures as "dragons".

Most people think that dragons are just for fairy stories, and never really lived. But in fact, dragons were dinosaurs, and are just another extinct animal.

Did dinosaurs and people live at the same time?

People from all over the world have stories of dragons. This means that they must have seen them. According to ancient stories, dragons came in many shapes and sizes. Some could fly, some could swim and they even laid eggs just like dinosaurs!

Dinosaurs 2 How old are dinosaur bones?

Many believe in evolution, which tells us that certain species of animals changed and developed over time into new species. This is not what the Bible teaches. The Bible teaches that all the different kinds of animals were created by God on day 6 of the Creation, 6000 years ago. Each animal produced babies that were the same kind as themselves. Cats produced cats and dogs produced dogs, dinosaurs produced dinosaurs.

Scientists who believe in evolution believe that dinosaur lived millions of years ago, and over the millions of years the dinosaur changed into another animal and that animal changed into another animal. According to the evolutionists dinosaurs died out millions of years ago. They believe that humans came into the world many more millions of years down the track and came from apes. So they don't believe that dinosaurs and people could ever have lived together.

However we find many stories and drawings of dinosaurs throughout history. What do the evolutionists say about these? In order to hold on to their theory, they must say that these stories are myths or fairy stories.



How long ago were dinosaurs created? How long ago were human beings created?

Dinosaurs 3 Dinosaurs in the Bible

The Bible mentions two dinosaurs by name and describes them in great detail: "Behemoth" (Job 40:15-24) and "Leviathan" (Job 41:1-34).

Some people think that "Behemoth" might have been a hippopotamus and "Leviathan" could be a crocodile. But this could not be true. Let's see why.

Behemoth cannot be a hippo because Job 40:17 says, "He bends his tail like a cedar". A hippo has a short tail like a pig. Behemoth had a large tail shaped like a cedar tree, (large and tapered to a point at the end).

Leviathan could not be a crocodile but would be a swimming dinosaur. Let's look at the verses that tell us this

- Verse 15: "His back is made of rows of shields, fastened together and hard as stone." (This sounds like an animal with scales much stronger than crocodile skin!)
- Verses 18-21: Leviathan breathes out fire and smoke. (Crocodiles do not do this, but there are stories of dragons that did.)
- Verse 22: He has a powerful neck. (Crocodiles don't really have an obvious neck.)
- Verse 25: "When he rises up, even the strongest are frightened." (Crocs don't rise up at all but always lay low.)
- Verse 26: "There is no sword that can wound him." (Crocs are quite easy to kill with a good spear.)
- Verse 30: "The scales on his belly are like jagged pieces of pottery. They tear up the muddy ground like a threshing-sledge." (Crocodiles have smooth skin on their belly.)

Name and draw pictures of the two dinosaurs in the Bible.

Dinosaurs 4

Dinosaurs and people living at the same time

There are cave and rock drawings around the world of creatures that look very much like dinosaurs. There is a rock drawing by the American Indians of a winged creature they called a 'Thunderbird'. This looks just like the fossil of a pteranodon, which had bat-like wings and a head crest.

There are brass engravings in an English church dating from 1496. These engravings look very much like dinosaurs.

The Australian Aboriginal people gave the name 'bunyip' to a fierce reptilian creature they feared. An early Australian newspaper published a report on a bunyip as seen and described by Australian Aborigines. It walked upright on two legs and fits the description of a dinosaur better than any other animal.



Other stories come from many different parts of the world. Even today there are some who believe that deep in the remote jungles of Africa, a creature known as Mokele Mbenbe might be a living dinosaur. No one has yet discovered if any dinosaurs still exist today. But the evidence is there that man and dinosaurs have lived together at one time.

What evidence is there for dinosaurs and people living at the same time?

Dinosaurs 5 Putting bones together



Asian temple carving

A person who studies dinosaurs is known as a paleontologist. When dinosaur bones are found it is not easy to know how to put them together. It has taken modern scientists many years to work out how to put these bones together.

One scientist accidentally put bones together of two different dinosaurs and called it a brontosaurus. Later other scientists found that he was wrong so that name no longer exists.

The people in ancient history could did not have the knowledge of how to put dinosaur bones together, so we can conclude that the people who drew these creatures could only know what dinosaurs really looked like of they actually saw them.

The Bible tells us the true history of the world. Its words came from the Creator of the universe. Despite the wonderful findings of science, no one is alive today who can tell us what happened in the distant past. But the One who made it all has given us a record of what has taken place.

How did ancient people know what dinosaurs looked like? How do scientists know what they might have looked like?

Dinosaurs 6 Dinosaur fossils

The Bible tells us of a massive Great Flood, which happened about 4000 years ago. The Flood killed every land-dwelling, air breathing creature except for those which were kept alive in a huge ship built by Noah. Almost all the world's fossils are preserved in sediments laid down by water.

There are huge fossil graveyards with millions of wellpreserved fish fossils and many dinosaur fossils as well, with their bones in correct position. This indicates that they were buried rapidly in a great flood.

If all the massive layers containing fossils formed slowly and gradually over millions of years, as the evolutionists tell us, then we would not expect to find as many fossils.



There are some fossils found that died in the middle of every day activities such as eating or even giving birth. For example, there are fossils of fish with fish in their mouths. These fossils show us that the creatures were buried quickly while still alive.

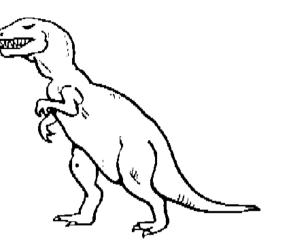
What event was the cause of millions of fossils all over the world? How old are these fossils?

Dinosaurs 7 Tyrannosaurus rex (T-rex)

'Tyrannosaurus' comes from the Greek words meaning 'tyrant lizard', while the word 'rex' means 'king' in Latin.

Tyrannosaurus rex lived in North America.

Tyrannosaurus rex walked on two legs, balancing its huge head with a long and heavy tail.



Tyrannosaurus rex measured up to 13m (42ft) in length, 4m (13ft) at the hip and could weigh up to 7 tons!

The skull of a Tyrannosaurus rex alone measured up to 1.5m (5ft) long.

The largest tooth of any carnivorous dinosaur found to this date is that of a T-Rex. It is 30 cm (12in) long.

Tyrannosaurus rex had small arms that were extremely powerful and featured two clawed fingers.

Tyrannosaurus rex could run at a speed of around 40kph (25mph).

Draw a T-rex and list 5 facts

Dinosaurs 8 Triceratops

The name 'Triceratops' comes from the Greek language, meaning three-horned face.

The Triceratops was one of the most easily recognizable dinosaurs due to its large body, unique frill and three horns.

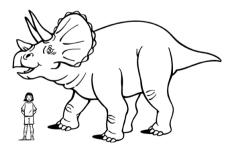
It had three horns to protect itself.

It is believed that fully grown Triceratops were about 8m (26ft) in length, 3m (10ft) in height and weighed anywhere between 6 to 12 tons.

The skull of a Triceratops alone could grow over 2m (7ft) in length.

The Triceratops was a plant eating (herbivore) dinosaur.

Triceratops had anywhere between 400 and 800 teeth, although only a small number of these were in use at any one time as they were constantly replaced throughout its lifetime.



Draw a Triceratops and list 5 facts.

Dinosaurs 9 Apatosaurus

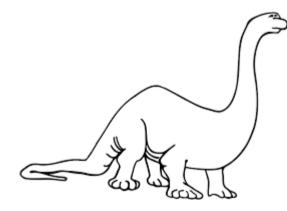
The Apatosaurus used to be called the Brontosaurus. (A mistake was made when bones of two dinosaurs were confused.)

The Apatosaurus is one of the largest animals to have ever walked on Earth, averaging around 23m (75ft) in length and a weight of over 23 metric tons.

It took an Apatosaurus only around 10 years to reach its full size.

Apatosaurus had long whip-like tails that counter balanced their long necks.

Apatosaurus was a plant eating (herbivore) dinosaur.



Draw an Apatosaurus and list 5 facts.

Dinosaurs 10 Diplodocus

The name Diplodocus comes from the Greek language and means 'double beam'. This refers to strangely shaped bones found in the Diplodocus tail.

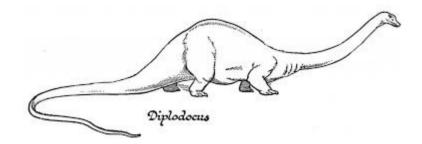
A large amount of fossil remains have made it easier for scientists to study the Diplodocus compared to many other dinosaurs.

Diplodocus lived in North America.

For many years the Diplodicus was thought to be the longest dinosaur, but now even longer dinosaurs have since been discovered

The Diplodocus could have been as long as 35m (115ft) and around 10 to 15 tons in weight.

Diplodocus had a long tail which contained around 80 vertebrae.



Draw a Diplodocus and list 5 facts.

Dinosaurs 11 Brachiosaurus

The name Brachiosaurus comes from Greek words meaning 'arm' and 'lizard'. The name refers to the interesting nature of Brachiosaurus legs which were longer at the front than the back.

Brachiosaurus lived in North America.

The Brachiosaurus had a long neck, a small head and a short tail.

The Brachiosaurus walked on all four legs.

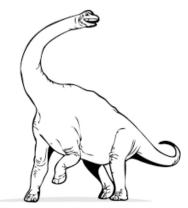
The weight of Brachiosaurus has been estimated between 30 and 45 metric tons.

The length of Brachiosaurus is believed to have been around 26 metres (85 feet).

The Brachiosaurus was a herbivore (plant eater), that feed on foliage high above the ground.

It is estimated that Brachiosaurus ate between 200 and 400 kilograms (440 and 880 pounds) of plants every day!

Draw a Brachiosaurus and list 5 facts.



Dinosaurs 12 Stegosaurus

The Stegosaurus was a herbivores (plant eater)

It has rows of plates and spines along their back and tail.

The name 'Stegosaurus' comes from the Greek words 'stegos' meaning roof and 'sauros' meaning lizard.

Stegosaurus fossils have been found in western North America and more recently in Portugal, (Europe).

The Stegosaurus was large and heavy. On average, a fully grown Stegosaurus was around 9 metres (30ft) in length, 4 metres (14ft) in height and up to nearly 5 metric tons in weight.

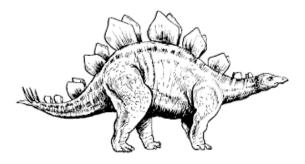
Although the Stegosaurus body was large, the size of their brain was only around the size of a dog's.

They had a maximum speed of around 7kph (5mph).

The 17 plates found along the back of the Stegosaurus came from the skin rather than being attached to the skeleton. The largest plates were around 60cm (2ft) tall and 60cm (2ft) wide.

The Stegosaurus also had tail spikes that reached around 60cm (2ft) to 90cm (3ft) in length.

Draw a Stegosaurus and list 5 facts.



Dinosaurs 13 Iguanodon

The name Iguanodon means 'Iguana tooth'.

The Iguanodon was first discovered in 1822 by English geologist Gideon Mantell.

The Iguanodon was a plant eater (herbivore).

It could easily shift between moving on two limbs or four.

The Iguanodon weighed around 3.5 tons and reached around 10 metres (33 feet) in length.

Iguanodon had a thin skull and long tail.

The largest collection of Iguanodon fossils were found in a Belgian coal mine (Europe) in 1878.

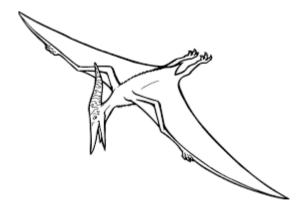
Scientists estimate the Iguanodon's maximum speed would have been around 24kph (15mph).



Draw an Iguanodon and list 5 facts.

Dinosaurs 14 Pteranodon

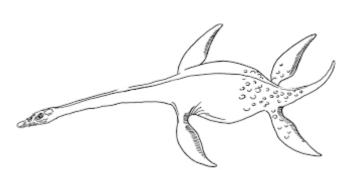
- Pteranodon means "Winged and Toothless"
- Pronounced ter-AN-o-DON
- Pteranodon probably ate mostly fish
- SIZE: Wingspan 25-33 foot (7.8-10 m) long
- Standing Height 6 ft (1.8 m) tall at the hips
- Weight 55 pounds (25 kg)
- WHERE IT LIVED: Fossils have been found in Kansas, USA, North America and in England, Europe.
- INTERESTING FACTS: Pteranodon was a flying reptile. it was not a dinosaur, but was a close relative of the dinosaurs. Pteranodon's wing-span is longer than that of any known bird. It had a crest on its head, no teeth at all, and a very short tail.



Draw a Pteranodon and list 5 facts.

Dinosaurs 15 Plesiosaur

Plesiosaurs means "near lizard"



They were marine animals and not dinosaurs.

Plesiosaurs are divided into two groups: a) long, snake-like necks, tiny heads, and wide bodies b) large heads with very strong jaws and short necks.

Plesiosaurs were anything from 8 to 46 feet long (2.5 to 14 m).

They had four flippers, sharp teeth in strong jaws, and short, pointed tails.

Plesiosaurs lived in the open oceans and breathed air. Some Plesiosaur fossils have been found with small stones in their stomachs; these may have been used to help grind up their food.

Plesiosaurs laid eggs, like sea turtles do.

Plesiosaurs ate fish and other swimming animals. They had strong jaws and sharp teeth.

Plesiosaurs swam using their four paddle-like flippers, similar to turtles.

Draw a Plesiosaur and list 5 facts.

Dinosaurs 16 Dinosaur eggs

Dinosaur eggs were laid by female dinosaurs, similar to the way in which reptiles lay eggs.

Dinosaur eggs have been found all over the world.

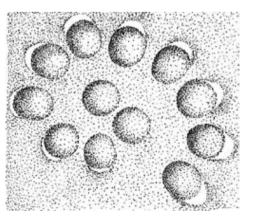
Dinosaur eggshell can be studied under a microscope.

Sometimes the egg preserves the remains of the developing embryo inside.

The first fossilized dinosaur eggs found (and the biggest yet to be found), were football-shaped.

These were found in France in 1869. The eggs were 1 foot (30 cm) long, 10 inches (25 cm) wide, had a volume of about half a gallon (2 liters), and may have weighed up to 15.5 pounds (7 kg).

At present over 700 different species of dinosaurs have been identified and named.



Draw a nest of dinosaur eggs and list 5 facts.