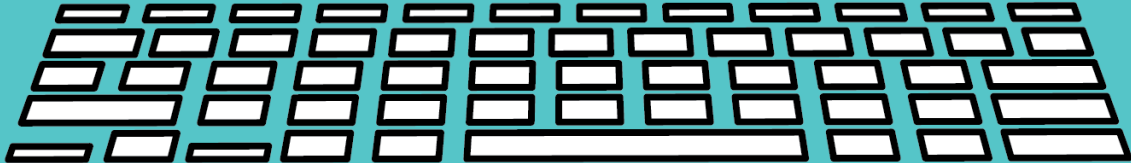
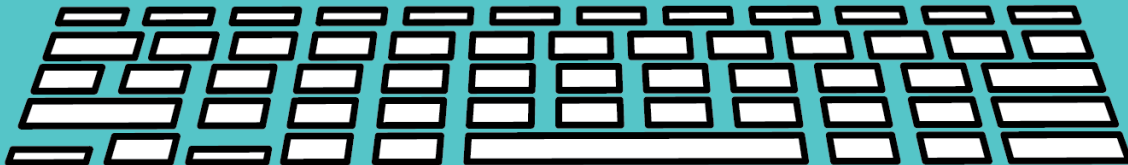


THE FIRST
DINOSAUR TO
BE NAMED
WAS THE
MEGALOSAURUS

Short Answer	Type Answer Here
1. About how many species of dinosaurs were there?	
2. What kind of hips do ornithischia dinosaurs have?	
3. What Greek word means lizard or reptile?	
4. Was a Stegosaurus an herbivore or carnivore?	
5. What was the single continent of Earth called?	
6. What would herbivorous dinosaurs eat?	
7. What scientist would excavate and analyze fossils?	
8. Did dinosaurs lay eggs?	



Short Answer	Type Answer Here	Fill in the Blank	Type Answer Here
1. About how many species of dinosaurs were there?		9. Most died by the end of the Cretaceous Period.	
2. What kind of bones do ornithischian dinosaurs have?		10. A ____ dinosaur would eat meat.	
3. What Greek word means lizard or reptile?		11. Ankylosaurs were ____ dinosaurs.	
4. Was a Stegosaurus an herbivore or carnivore?		12. Dinosaurs roamed the Earth about ____ million years ago.	
5. What was the single continent of Earth called?		13. Ornithomimids resembled modern-day ____ and ____.	
6. What would herbivorous dinosaurs eat?		14. The Greek word deinos means terrible or fearful.	
7. What scientist would excavate and analyze fossils?		15. ____ and synapsid didn't have an upright stance.	
8. Did dinosaurs lay eggs?		16. Volcano eruptions split Pangaea in two, forming the ____ Ocean.	



DINOSAURS

Dinosaurs are a group of reptiles that roamed the Earth about 245 million years ago, near the beginning of the Middle Triassic period. They lived on Earth for nearly 180 million years, but most died by the end of the Cretaceous period, about 65 million years ago. Interestingly, birds and crocodiles are descendants of dinosaurs.

Dinosaurs dominated the land. The term dinosaur comes from the Greek words deinos (terrifying or fearful) and sauros (lizard or reptile). Dinosaurs were bipedal and quadrupedal, and they had an upright stance. Some had four legs, but birds walked on two. Flying reptiles like pterosaurs were actually considered archosaurs, not dinosaurs. Likewise, marine reptiles (ichthyosaurs, mosasaurs, and Dimetrodon) are considered synapsids, not dinosaurs. Archosaurs and synapsids didn't have an upright stance.

Dinosaurs shared the following characteristics: 1) an upright stance with legs perpendicular to the body, 2) they lived on land, 3) they lived on land, not the sea (except for some birds similar to penguins), 4) they had a hole between the eye socket and nostril, and 5) they had a hole behind the eye socket. These holes had large, strong jaw muscles that could open and clamp down with force.

When dinosaurs roamed the Earth, the continents were one single land mass called Pangaea. The climate was hot and dry. The land had large deserts but no polar ice caps. Then, at the end of the Triassic era, massive volcanic eruptions split Pangaea in two, forming the Atlantic Ocean. Following that, a mass extinction wiped out many large land animals, except the dinosaurs.

About 700 species of dinosaurs lived across several geological periods. Dinosaurs are classified into categories based on their hip structure, family, and relationship to birds.

First, dinosaurs are sorted into two categories based on hip structure and where the bones are in the pelvis. Saurischia dinosaurs have lizard hips, and ornithischia dinosaurs have bird hips.

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Saurischians are divided into two categories: theropods - carnivorous dinosaurs (eat meat), and saurapodomorphs - herbivorous long-necked dinosaurs (eat plants). Ornithischians are divided into categories as well: Ankylosaurs (armored dinosaurs), Ceratopsians (horned and frilled dinosaurs), Stegosaurs (plated and spiked dinosaurs), and Ornithomimids (duck-billed and other plant-eating dinosaurs).

Second, dinosaurs are divided into 15 families of dinosaurs: Ankylosaurs (armored) plates, spikes, clubs; quadrupedal, herbivore; Ceratopsians (horned, frilled) quadrupedal, herbivore; Ornithomimids (bird-mimic) resemble modern-day ostriches and emus; omnivore; Pachycephalosaurs - (bone-headed) bipedal, small-medium sized, herbivore; Saurapods (long necks) quadrupedal, herbivore; Stegosaurs - (spiked, plated), herbivore; Theropods - bipedal, carnivores, large; Titanosaurs (killing machines) bipedal, carnivore, large; Raptors (dinosaurs) bipedal, feathered (mostly); Titanosaurs - quadrupedal, herbivore; Feathered dinosaurs - cross between dinosaur and bird, small; Hadrosaurs (duck-billed) large, herbivore; Ornithomimids - small, bipedal, herbivore; Ornithomimids - bipedal and quadrupedal, omnivore, small-medium sized; and Theropods - bipedal, carnivore.

Dinosaur habitats ranged from deserts to forests to swamps. The creatures had various adaptations to exist in their environments. For example, long necks reached high plants, sharp teeth tore flesh, horns for defense, feathers for flight, and feathers were essential for flight. Paleontologists use fossils and analyze fossils to learn about dinosaurs' appearance, anatomy, diet, behavior, evolution, and extinction. Fossils have been found on all seven continents. Non-avian dinosaurs became extinct about 66 million years ago, likely due to a colossal asteroid that hit Earth near the Yucatan Peninsula in Mexico. The colossal crater developed, sending dust and debris into the atmosphere, thus blocking out the sun. As a result, global temperatures dropped for several years. Plants died due to lack of sunlight, and photosynthesis halting the food supply for herbivores. Carnivores then starved due to lack of prey.

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