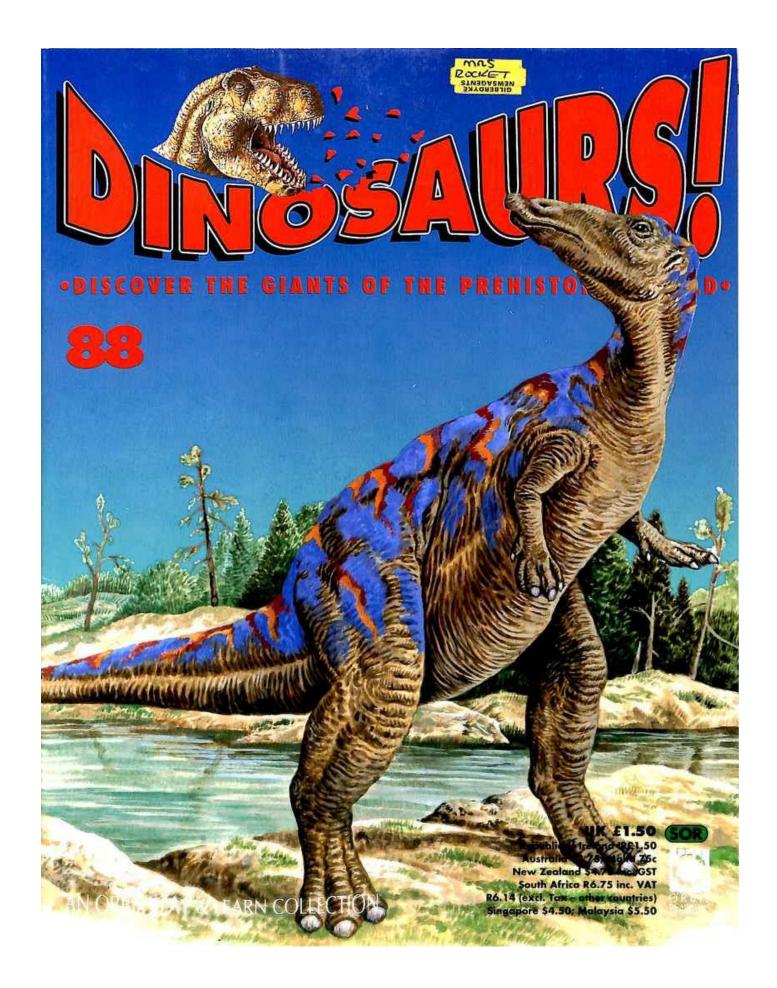
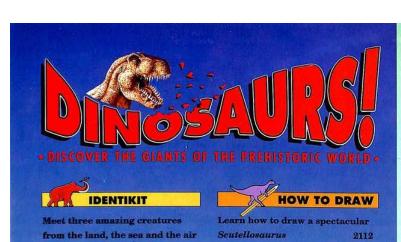
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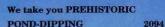
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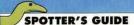
PREHISTORIC WORLD

MANDSCHUROSAURUS

PTERODAUSTRO

EOGYRINUS





Find out how to start a dinosaur collection in DINOMANIA



Throughout history, people have been fascinated by the discovery of FOSSIL TREASURE 2104



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dinosaur queries

Dr David Norman of Cambridge

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MANDSCHUROSAURUS

Herds of giant Mandschurosaurus roamed through the forests at the end of the Age of the Dinosaurs.



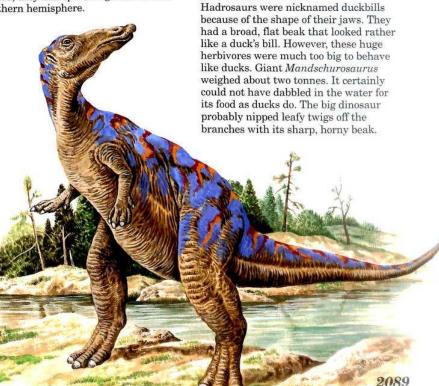
hese huge dinosaurs were members of the most successful group of plant-

eating dinosaurs - the hadrosaurs, or 'duckbills'. The hadrosaurs evolved in Central Asia. By the Late Cretaceous Period, they had spread right across the northern hemisphere.

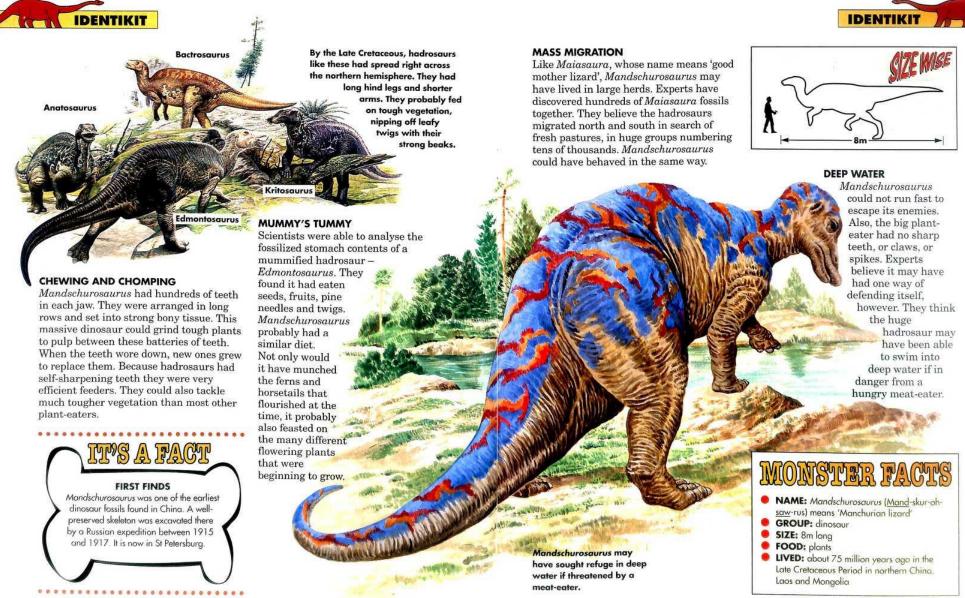
UPS AND DOWNS

Hadrosaurs were divided into two families. They were called the hadrosaurine duckbills and the lambeosaurine duckbills. Mandschurosaurus was a hadrosaurine duckbill. Members of that family had flat heads, with crests or bumps of solid bone. The lambeosaurine duckbills looked much stranger. Their heads were topped with massive hollow crests.

DIPPING OR NIPPING









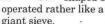


PTERODAUSTRO

One of the most extraordinary pterosaurs that lived in the Cretaceous was Pterodaustro.



ot all pterosaurs had long. pointed jaws. Pterodaustro had a remarkable basketshaped beak, which



JAWS

The jaws of Pterodaustro were 10 times longer than the rest of its skull. The

upper jaw had a few short, blunt teeth. But the lower jaw had

nearly 1,000 long, springy bristles, arranged like stiff hairs on a brush.

CHOP CHOP

Pterodaustro strained mouthfuls of water through these bristles. Tiny creatures caught in them were chopped up by the pterosaur's sharp back teeth.

- NAME: Pterodaustro (ter-o-dow-stro) means 'southern wing'
- GROUP: pterosqur SIZE: 1.2m wingspan
- FOOD: shrimps
- LIVED: about 140 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period in South America

← 1.2m →

FLAMINGO FEEDER Some experts believe that Pterodaustro flew low over the water and sieved for its food on the wing. But other experts

disagree. They think the force of the water would have been too great. They believe that Pterodaustro probably stood in the shallows and scooped its food up in its beak, just as flamingos do today.

2092

EOGYRINUS

Alligator-like *Eogyrinus* belonged to the amphibian group that may have been an ancestor of the reptiles.



ore than 300 million years ago, Eogyrinus hunted for fishes in the swamps of the coal forests. It was one of

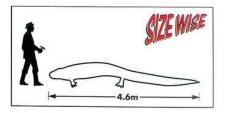
the larger labyrinthodonts. This group of animals flourished from about 180 to 350 million years ago. They were the first amphibians to live on dry land.

IN THE SWIM

Eogyrinus must have been a clumsy mover on land. Its legs were not long enough to lift its body off the ground. It probably dragged itself along. The big amphibian was really at home in the water. It would have swung its long, eel-like tail from side to side to power its way through the water.

BACK TO BACK

The first fossils of Eogyrinus were found in the coal mines of northern England in the 1870s. Scientists discovered that the labyrinthodont had an unusually long backbone. It had nearly twice as many vertebrae as most other amphibians.

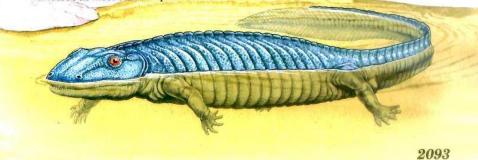


- NAME: Eogyrinus (ee-oh-ji-rine-us) means 'early frog'
- GROUP: amphibian
- SIZE: 4.6m long
- FOOD: fish
- LIVED: about 350 million years ago in the Late Carboniferous in England

BIG HEAD

Eogyrinus also had a much deeper skull than most other amphibians. It was closer to the shape of a crocodile's head. So

it may have had a powerful crocodilelike bite.



Prehistoric pond-dipping

Let's take a trip back in time and go pond-dipping in the Age of the Dinosaurs. Would we recognise any of the creatures swimming there?

ave you ever been pond-dipping? You lie peacefully by the side of a pond, gently dip your net into the water and carefully tip the contents into a jar of water. As you study this mini-world of plants, prey and predators, think back to the Age of Dinosaurs. Amazingly, pond life then was not a great deal different from the plants and creatures you will collect in your jar today.

This prehistoric pond is full to the brim because the wet season has started. Creatures of all kinds are feeding and breeding here.

POND LIFE

In the wet season, prehistoric ponds teemed with life. Worms, such as Spirorbis, hid away in their stony tubes with just a tiny 'fan' of tentacles showing. These feathery tentacles trapped any food in the surrounding water. Strangely, today's Spirorbis live only in the sea and along the shoreline.

SHELLS GALORE

Many fossil molluscs have also been found. Pond snails, such as *Galba*, mated and laid ribbons of jelly-encased eggs on plant leaves, just as water snails do today. Ramshorn snails, like *Planorbina*, slithered along, eating their way through the vegetation. There were plenty of freshwater mussels, too. They filtered food from the water, as their relatives do today.

WATER FLEAS

The water flea *Cyzicus* rowed through the water with its long feelers. It strained tiny bits of food from the water with its legs. Like today's water fleas, such as *Daphnia*, it bred quickly, providing food for larger animals.

BREEDING GROUNDS

Amphibians, such as frogs, toads and the newts *Triassurus* and *Karaurus*, lived in the ponds that dinosaurs drank from. They laid their eggs in the water. Tadpoles hatched and fed on water plants, then on tiny animals. In turn, they were food for bigger hunters, like water beetles and fish.

UNDERWATER INSECTS

Many adult insects, such as mosquitoes, dragonflies, damselflies and caddis flies, probably laid their eggs in prehistoric ponds, as today. The eggs hatched into larvae, which lived and fed in the water. Caddis fly larvae made tubes out of

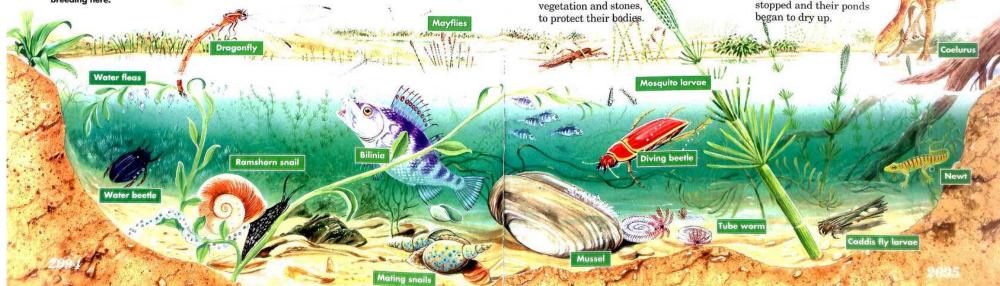
TYS A FACT

MINIATURE FOSSILS

How do we know that pond life then was much the same as it is today? We can tell from the tiny fossils of water creatures that have been preserved in the same way as the bones of much larger animals such as dinosaurs. Their perfect details show that prehistoric pond animals were almost identical to their relatives today.

RULING THE PONDS

There were many pond fishes around in the Age of the Dinosaurs, such as the small perch-like *Bilinia*. These were the pond's top predators, and feared nothing. That is, until the rains suddenly stopped and their ponds



DRYING UP

When the dry season started, the prehistoric pools started shrinking and drying up. The pond animals learned to cope with this in many different ways.

STAYING PUT

Some animals, such as worms and mussels, burrowed into the mud or surrounded themselves with a slimy, protective cocoon. Others, like the pond snails, hid deep within the dark, damp vegetation at the bottom of the pools, waiting for the drought to end.

PROTECTIVE JELLY

Many, like frogs, toads and newts, produced eggs surrounded by jelly or protected by tough cases. These eggs hatched only when the dry season ended. Insects, such as the pond skater, took advantage of the drought and fed on any dying animal trapped in the pond.

LET'S GO!

The tadpoles developed into frogs, toads or newts and crawled off into the undergrowth. Like today's amphibians, as adults they returned to the pond to mate and lay eggs.

UP, UP AND AWAY

Dragonfly and damselfly larvae crawled up the plant stems and split open their body cases. Out crawled the fully formed adults, ready to take to the air and escape.

Like the pond skaters of today (right), prehistoric pond skaters skimmed over the surface of the water, feeding on dying creatures.



FLYING OFF

The mayfly and caddis fly larvae also developed into free-flying adults. They were joined by the water beetle, as it flew away in search of a bigger, better pond.

Mosquito larvae (below) sweep food from the water with their brush-like mouthparts.



Like today's mussels (above), Cretaceous mussels held the two parts of their shells open and filtered the water for food.

NEVER-ENDING CYCLE

And so the pond's cycle of life was repeated, year after year. Dinosaurs came and went, but the mini-world of the pond carried on.

PREHISTORIC

WORLD

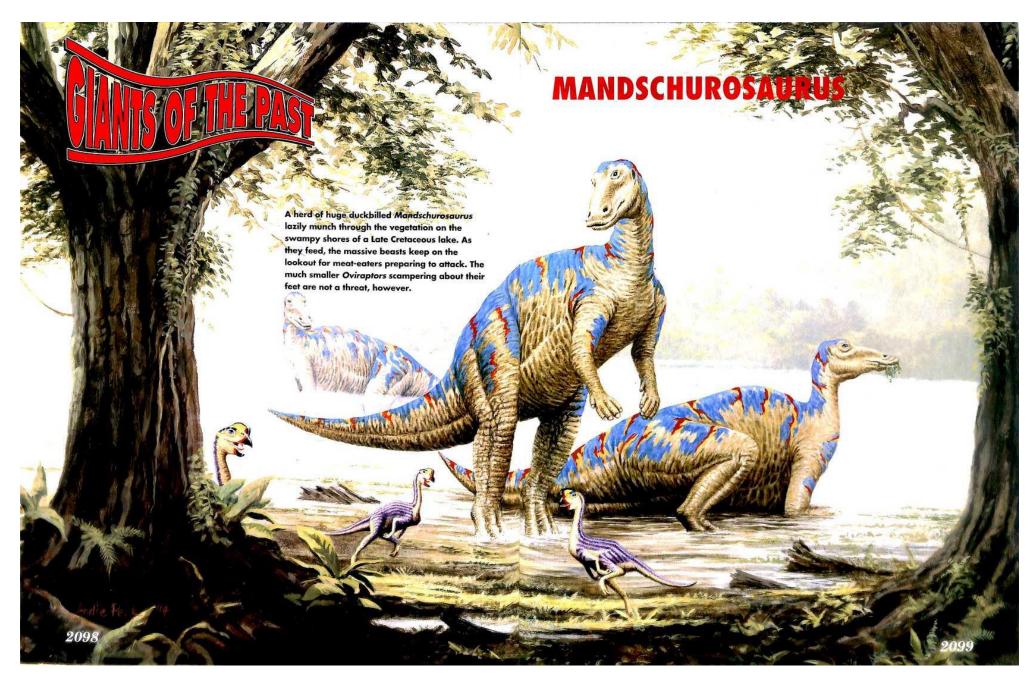
WATER WISE

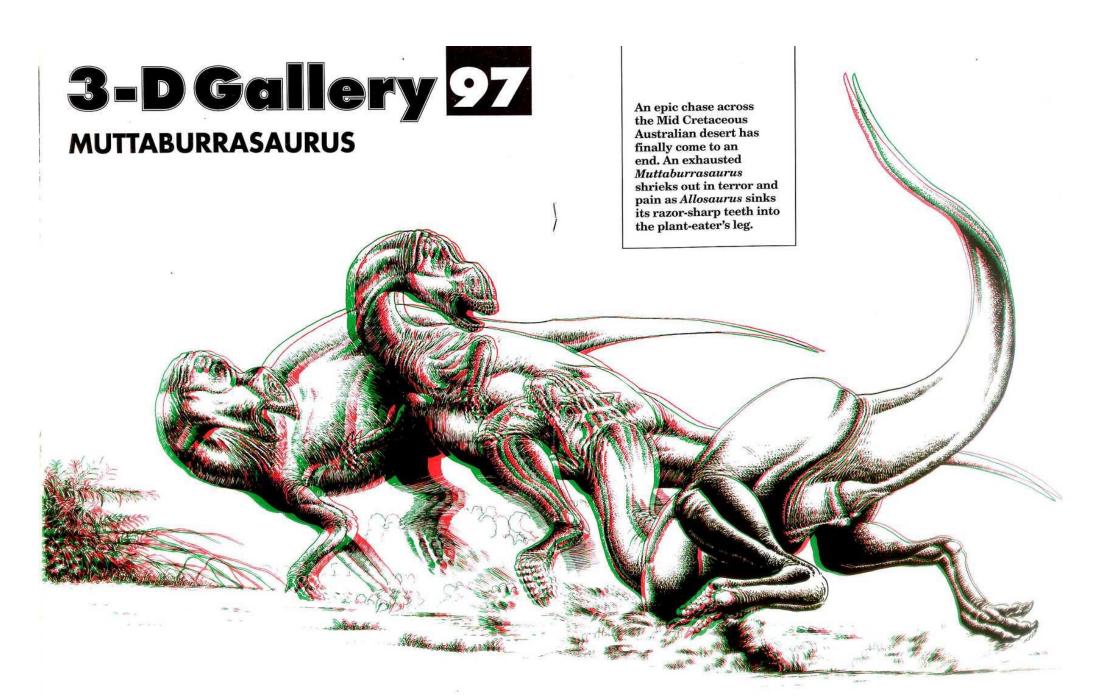
Remember: water is dangerous. Always take an adult if you go pond-dipping.

that the pond is a world in itself – an ecosystem?

Yes, partly. Plants grow there, small herbivorous animals eat them, and predators eat the herbivores. It's a miniature watery jungle, with hunters just as fierce as in a real jungle. A group of living things growing and feeding together like this, in their surroundings, is called an ecosystem. But the pond is not completely self-contained. Frogs and newts come and go. Insect larvae grow up and fly away, then return to lay their eggs. Animals stand on the bank and eat the water plants, while tree leaves blow in and provide extra food. So the pond and the land around exchange nature's row materials and nutrients.







SPOTTER'S GUIDE

Dinomania

You may never own a dinosaur fossil, but you can still collect your own dinosaurs. Palaeontologist Mike Howgate has thousands of them.

hen Mike Howgate was 10 years old, he made everyone in his family eat one brand of breakfast cereal for a whole year. This was so that Mike could collect the plastic models found in the bottom of each of the cereal boxes.

PREHISTORIC CEREAL

'There were 20 prehistoric creatures in the series,' he remembers. 'At one point I had about 40 or 50 *Dimetrodon*, but I never managed to collect the complete set.' Today, Mike has two or three thousand model dinosaurs. His 'dinomania' has made him into a serious collector, especially of models made in the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s. They range from small plastic toys that come free in cereal packets, to more expensive and very accurate dinosaur models. He often shows his collection at exhibitions.

PRIZED POSSESSION

Mike also has a vast collection of comics, stamps, postcards, cigarette cards and tea cards – all with dinosaurs on them. He even has one of the earliest-known illustrations of a dinosaur – a short, fat lizard-like *Megalosaurus*. This black-and-white print is probably the most valuable thing in his collection.

START A COLLECTION

There are plenty of dinosaur items to collect, from sweet wrappers and yoghurt pots, to rulers and pencils. If you want to start a collection of model dinosaurs, it's best to look for unusual ones. Most toy manufacturers make models of T rex and Stegosaurus, so try to find plastic models that aren't so common.

BARGAIN BUYS

Building up your dinosaur collection needn't be expensive. Mike recently paid very little for two unusual ones – a small *Psittacosaurus* and a *Saltasaurus* – in a local toy shop. Car boot sales, street markets and garage sales are also good places to begin dinosaur hunting. You never know what you might find.

DINOSAUR RESCUE

Mike has now started collecting old dinosaur models made from plaster. He rescues them from museums before they are thrown away and lost forever. 'Museums throw out these plaster models because they are no longer accurate,' says Mike. 'They are the original tail-dragging, swamp-dwelling monsters. But they are records of how we once thought those dinosaurs looked. They are part of dinosaur history.'

TREASURE TROVE

Mike has collected prehistoric things since he was six years old. He and his father used to search the local coal waste tips near his Yorkshire home for Carboniferous plant fossils. When the family went on holiday to Scarborough, Mike searched the beach for ammonites and belemnites. Then a local butcher gave him a 'treasure trove'. This was a box full of polished ammonites and other exciting finds. Mike was thrilled and this led to a lifelong interest. Mike decided to study geology and palaeontology when he grew up.

THE HUNT IS ON

Today, Mike is still collecting. About six years ago, the breakfast cereal dinosaurs were reissued and Mike managed, at last, to collect the full set. These little plastic dinosaurs have become the favourite items in his collection. But he hasn't finished yet; he is still hunting and hoping for a rare dinosaur to add to his unique collection.



These T rex and Iguanodon models (above) were produced in East Germany in the 1960s. They are now collector's items.

This superbly detailed 1992 model (below) shows a Velociraptor chasing some early mammals around a tree stump.



The colourful dinosaur models along the bottom of this page were given away with every eight gallons of petrol at garages across the USA during the 1950s.







Fossil treasure

Ever since fossils were first discovered, people have collected them. Today, fossils are worth a lot of money.

What problems has this caused and how can we deal with them?

eople have been collecting fossils for thousands of years. Throughout most of that time, fossilized bones and shells were seen as strange curiosities of nature. In the 1600s, wealthy families held social evenings displaying 'cabinets of curiosities', where fossils were objects of entertainment and amusement.

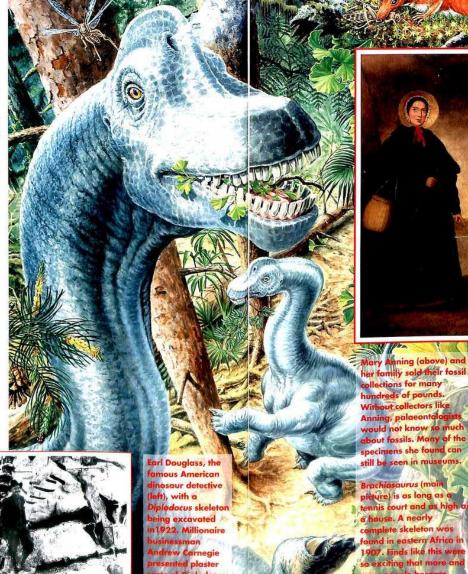
ANCIENT LIFE

Early scientists soon began to realise that fossils were not just curiosities, but were in fact the bones, teeth and shells of animals that lived on Earth many millions of years ago.

WORLDWIDE SEARCH

This sparked off a global treasure hunt. Scientists and collectors started searching quarries and cliffs for fossils. A great deal of what we know about the prehistoric world and the animals that lived there comes from finds made by the early fossil hunters.

2104





FOSSIL MANIA

About 150 years ago, the first dinosaurs were found in England by Gideon Mantell and William Buckland. Soon after, the great dinosaur hunt was on in the USA. Collectors, such as Edward Cope and Othniel Marsh, supplied museums with tonnes of dinosaur bones. By the early 1900s, dinosaurs had been found on every continent

RICH PICKINGS

Early collectors quickly realised there was money to be made from fossils. By 1820, Mary Anning and her family were collecting the skeletons of ichthyosaurs and other extinct sea reptiles from the Jurassic cliffs at Lyme Regis in England.

TT'S A FACT

SUNK WITHOUT TRACE

More and more people are buying rare fossils for their own private collections. Recently, a man bought a perfectly preserved Jurassic ichthyosaur fossil for thousands of pounds, just to build it into his swimming pool. What if it is a new species, or shows the fossilized remains of its last meal?

Palaeontologists will never know. Museums always encourage fossil dealers to show them their specimens before they are sold.



ANY OLD BONES



that T rex was arrested?

Yes. In 1992, a T rex was arrested. The skeleton (named Sue by its discoverers) had been collected in American 'Indian territory', without the full permission of the local Native Americans. When the FBI started to investigate the case, they found out that the land belonged to the American government. Poor old Sue was boxed up and taken away. It is to be hoped that no harm will come to the fragile bones while her fate is being decided.

Over the past few years, dinosaurs have become even more popular, and many more people are collecting them. Because of this, fossil hunters and museums want more bones for their collections. Museums are still buying skeletons from professional collectors and dealers, but now they pay tens or even hundreds of

MARKET TRADE

Some of the stolen fossils disappear forever, probably into private collections. Others have been known to turn up on local market stalls.

LOST AND GONE

Whether the specimens are sold or are taken for private collections, the outcome is the same. Fossils have been lost to science forever, and unique evidence is often destroyed when the fossil is removed.

SEEKING PERMISSION

In Britain, you usually have to ask the landowner before entering a private quarry or climbing a cliff to look for fossils. Landowners are worried about damage caused by fossil hunters digging away the rocks. Many now realise how much fossils can be worth and ask for money for those found on their land. Fossils can be gathered from seashores without permission, and these are often the best places anyway. In the USA, collecting has been banned in some areas to prevent further damage.

NEW RULES

Palaeontologists and collectors now agree that laws and rules are needed to stop damage to fossil sites, and illegal collecting. Special codes are currently being drawn up for many fossil sites, giving guidelines on how fossils should be collected. If everyone follows these basic rules, then there should be enough fossils for everyone to study and enjoy.



A Triceratops' skeleton
(above), on display at The
Natural History Museum,
London.

All that's left (below)
after thieves removed
an Iguanodon footprint
from the Isle of Wight.

FOSSIL RAIDERS

thousands of pounds.

Dinosaur bones are rare in

most parts of the world.

This means that the best places to find them are being

visited by more and more collectors.

Sites that were once a rich source of

dinosaur fossils are coming under threat.

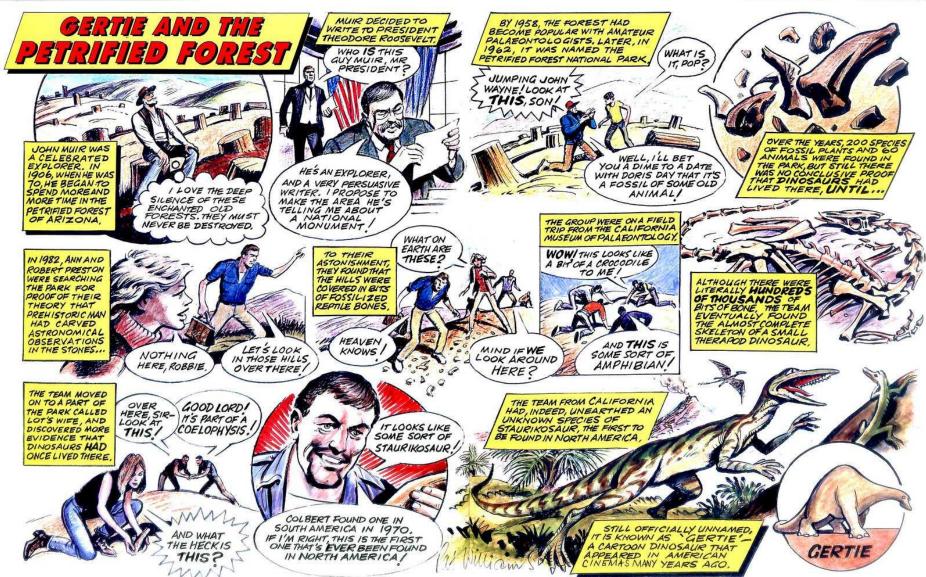
This growing fascination with fossils has also led to a dramatic rise in the black market for these treasures. There is now thriving international trade in fossil relics. Fossil thieves have plundered many private sites in England and the USA, often under the cover of darkness. They have illegally removed many valuable fossils, selling them to collectors for large amounts of money.

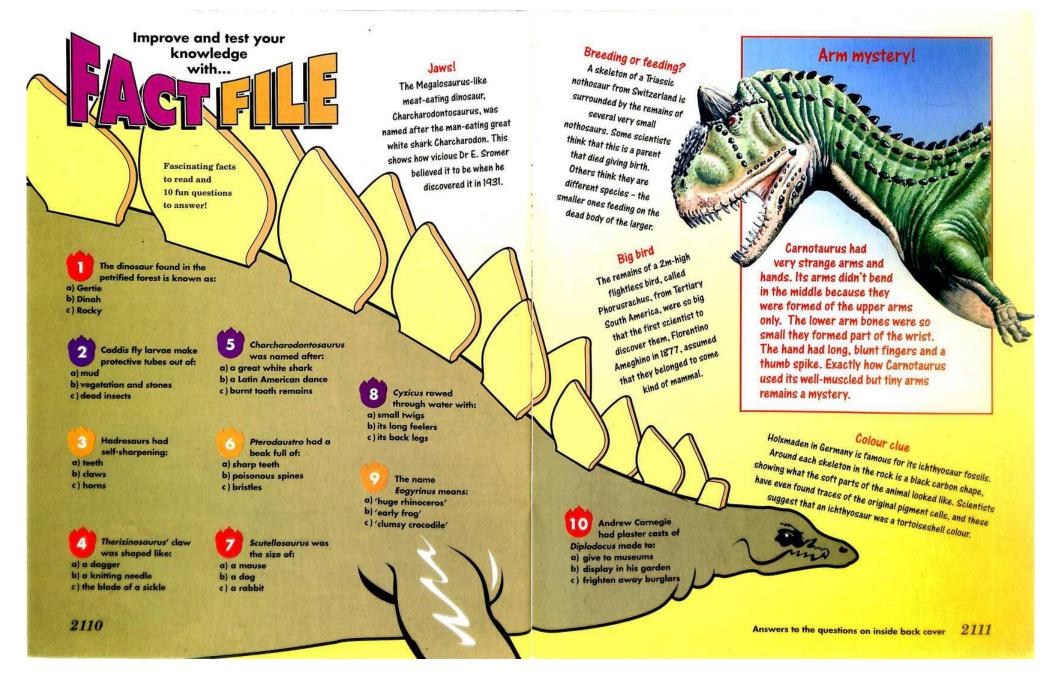
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By studying fossils, experts have been able to build up a detailed picture of what prehistoric creatures, like this Baryonyx, were really like.







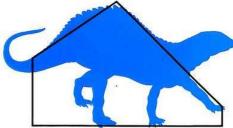


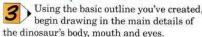


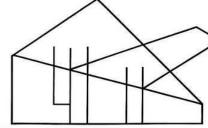
SCUTELLOSAURUS

With a pencil, draw the basic shape of Scutellosaurus, using straight lines. Don't worry about any details yet.

2 Draw shapes to mark the positions of the head and the main part of Scutellosaurus' body. Next, mark where the legs should go.

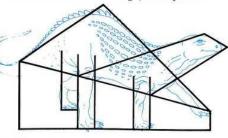






Now finish off all the little details. Add lines and rows of scales to show the texture of the dinosaur's tough, wrinkly skin.







Scutellosaurus was a dog-sized plant-eater with a lightly armoured back.

NAME: Scutellosaurus (Skoo-tell-ohsaw-rus) means 'small-scaled reptile'

GROUP: dinosaur SIZE: 1.3m long

FOOD: low-lying plants

LIVED: about 195 million years ago in the Early Jurassic Period in Arizona, North America

2112

What does a palaeontologist do? Find out in TIME DETECTIVE. Read all about dinosaur digestion in PREHISTORIC WORLD.



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