


ESTA REVISTA FOI  
DIGITALIZADA A FIM DE  
DIFUNDIR CONHECIMENTO E  
PRESERVAR O MATERIAL.  
É PROIBIDA A VENDA  
DESTE MATERIAL E USO  
PARA FINS LUCRATIVOS!



[WWW.IKESSAURO.COM](http://WWW.IKESSAURO.COM)

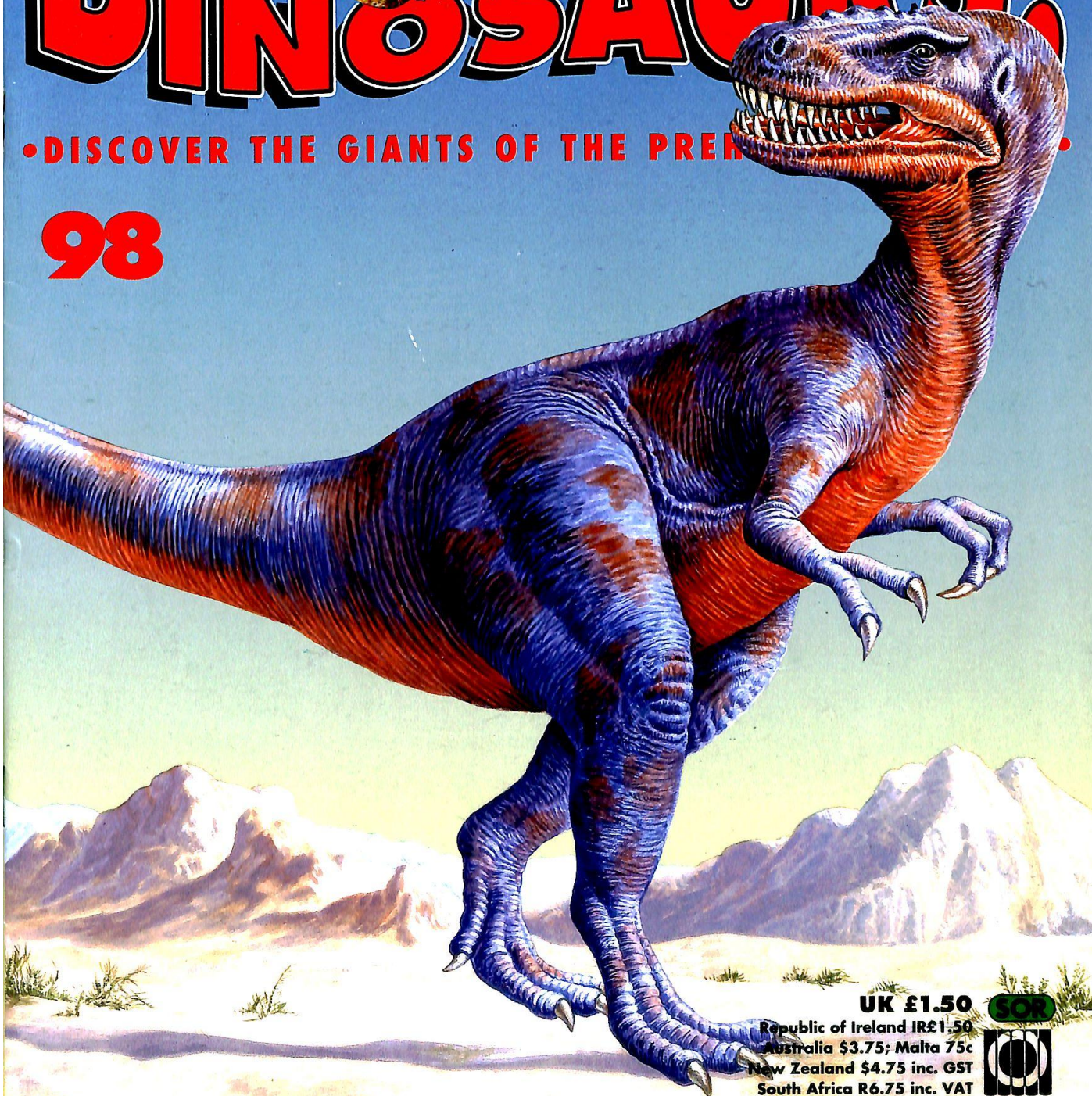




# DINOSAURS!

• DISCOVER THE GIANTS OF THE PREHISTORIC WORLD •

98



AN ORBIS PLAY & LEARN COLLECTION

**UK £1.50**  
Republic of Ireland IR£1.50  
Australia \$3.75; Malta 75c  
New Zealand \$4.75 inc. GST  
South Africa R6.75 inc. VAT  
R6.14 (excl. Tax - other countries)  
Singapore \$4.50; Malaysia \$5.50





# DINOSAURS!

• DISCOVER THE GIANTS OF THE PREHISTORIC WORLD •



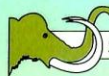
## IDENTIKIT

Meet a monster from the deep and two very different dinosaurs

<b>TYLOSOSAURUS</b>	<b>2329</b>
<b>ALECTROSAURUS</b>	<b>2332</b>
<b>OTHNIELIA</b>	<b>2333</b>

## PREHISTORIC WORLD

Take a walk in Late Triassic Arizona in DINO SAFARI **2334**



## SPOTTER'S GUIDE

ON PARADE: PREHISTORIC SEA MONSTERS **2342**

## TIME DETECTIVE

Find out what the climate was like during the Age of the Dinosaurs in FOSSIL WEATHER **2344**



## HISTORY IN PICTURES

Follow the development of ocean life in SEAVOLUTION **2348**



## HOW TO DRAW

Tusk, tusk – of course you can draw *Amebelodon* **2352**

## ASK THE EXPERT

Dr David Norman of Cambridge University answers more of your dinosaur queries **BACK COVER**

## PLUS

### GIANTS OF THE PAST

Monstrous *Tylosaurus* erupts from below the waves **2338**

### 3-D Gallery

A herd of *Homalocephale* threatens a relative **2340**

### FACT FILE

More fascinating trivia and the weekly quiz **2350**

## HOW TO CONTINUE YOUR COLLECTION

Most people collect their issues by placing a regular order with their newsagent. You can, however, also obtain your copies directly in the following ways:

### UK and REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

If you have any difficulty obtaining your copies of *DINOSAURS!* from your regular retailer, telephone Nicky Scott on 0181 600 2000.

**Subscriptions:** Phone 0424 755755 for information (Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm).

**Back issues:** If you miss any issues of *DINOSAURS!*, these can be ordered through your newsagent. Alternatively, you can order back issues by phoning 0424 755755 (Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm). Credit card orders accepted. Or write to: Back Issues Department, *DINOSAURS!*, PO Box 1, Hastings, TN35 4TJ.

1. Your name, address and postcode  
2. The issue number(s) and number of copies of each issue you require  
3. Your payment of the cover price plus 50p per copy postage and packing. This can be by postal order or cheque made payable to Orbis Publishing Ltd.

### Binders:

**UK:** *DINOSAURS!* binders are now available. Each binder holds 13 issues and costs just £4.95 (including £1 p&h). You can order binders direct from *DINOSAURS!*, PO Box 1, Hastings, TN35 4TJ. Please enclose payment for £4.95 for each binder. You can pay by cheque or postal order made payable to Orbis Publishing Limited, or phone 0424 755755. Telephone credit card orders are accepted.

**Republic of Ireland:** Binders are available through your newsagent, priced at £4.95.

### AUSTRALIA

**Back issues:** Write to: Gordon & Gotch Ltd, P.O. Box 290, Burwood, Victoria 3125. Please enclose your payment of the cover price plus \$1 per issue p&h.

**Binders:** Details will be published in future issues. Or you can write to: *DINOSAURS!* Binders, Basset Magazine Service Pty Ltd, MC Box 460, Eastern Mail Centre, Victoria 33110.

### NEW ZEALAND

**Back issues:** Write for details to: Gordon & Gotch Ltd, P.O. Box 584, Auckland.

**Binders:** Write for details to: Gordon & Gotch Ltd, P.O. Box 584, Auckland.

### MALTA

**Back issues:** These can be ordered through your newsagent.

**Binders:** These are now available. Contact: Miller Distribution Ltd., Tel: 664488.

### SOUTH AFRICA

**Back issues:** Telephone 011 477 7391 for details. Or write to: Back Issues Department, Republican News Agency, PO Box 16034, Doornfontein, 2028. Please enclose your payment of the cover price plus 2 Rand per issue p&h.

**Binders:** These can be obtained at the shop where you bought this magazine.

### SINGAPORE, MALAYSIA

**Back issues and binders:** These can be obtained at the shop where you bought this magazine.

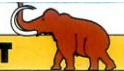
**DINOSAURS!** is published by Orbis Publishing Ltd, Griffin House, 161 Hammersmith Rd, London W6 8SD.

© 1994 Orbis Publishing

**EDITORIAL & DESIGN** by Tucker Slingsby Ltd, 3G London House, 66-68 Upper Richmond Rd, London SW15 2RP.

N98 95 02 16  
ISBN 0 7489 1698 9  
Printed in Italy by Officine Grafiche De Agostini, Novara

## IDENTIKIT



# TYLOSOSAURUS

Giant *Tylosaurus* ruled the seas more than 65 million years ago.



any large and fearsome meat-eating reptiles lurked in the prehistoric oceans. Most died out along with the dinosaurs.

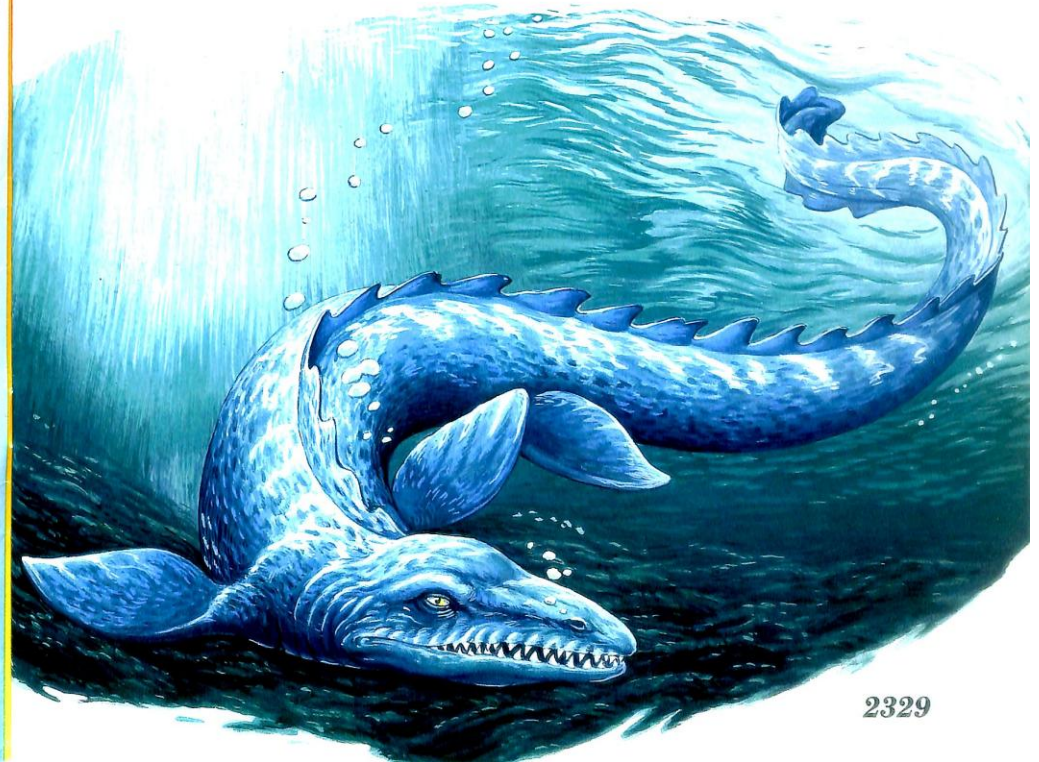
Some of the biggest of these sea monsters were the mosasaurs, which included *Clidastes*, *Platecarpus* and *Tylosaurus*.

## GIANT LIZARDS

These fierce monsters were giant sea lizards, swimming in the shallows of the Late Cretaceous seas.

## TAKE OVER

Mosasaurs, such as *Tylosaurus*, took over from the fish-like ichthyosaurs as the fiercest and fastest hunters in the sea. The mosasaurs' closest living relative is the monitor lizard, which lives on land.



2329





## IDENTIKIT

### SEA MONSTER

*Tylosaurus* was one of the largest mosasaurs – over twice as long as *Clidastes*, an early mosasaur. *Tylosaurus* grew up to 8m in length, which is almost as long as a double-decker bus.

### SCALY SKIN

*Tylosaurus* had a short neck, but a long head and powerful jaws lined with sharp, curved teeth. Its nostrils were set high up on its skull. Experts believe the body of *Tylosaurus* was probably covered in scaly skin, just like that of today's snakes.

### OPEN WIDE

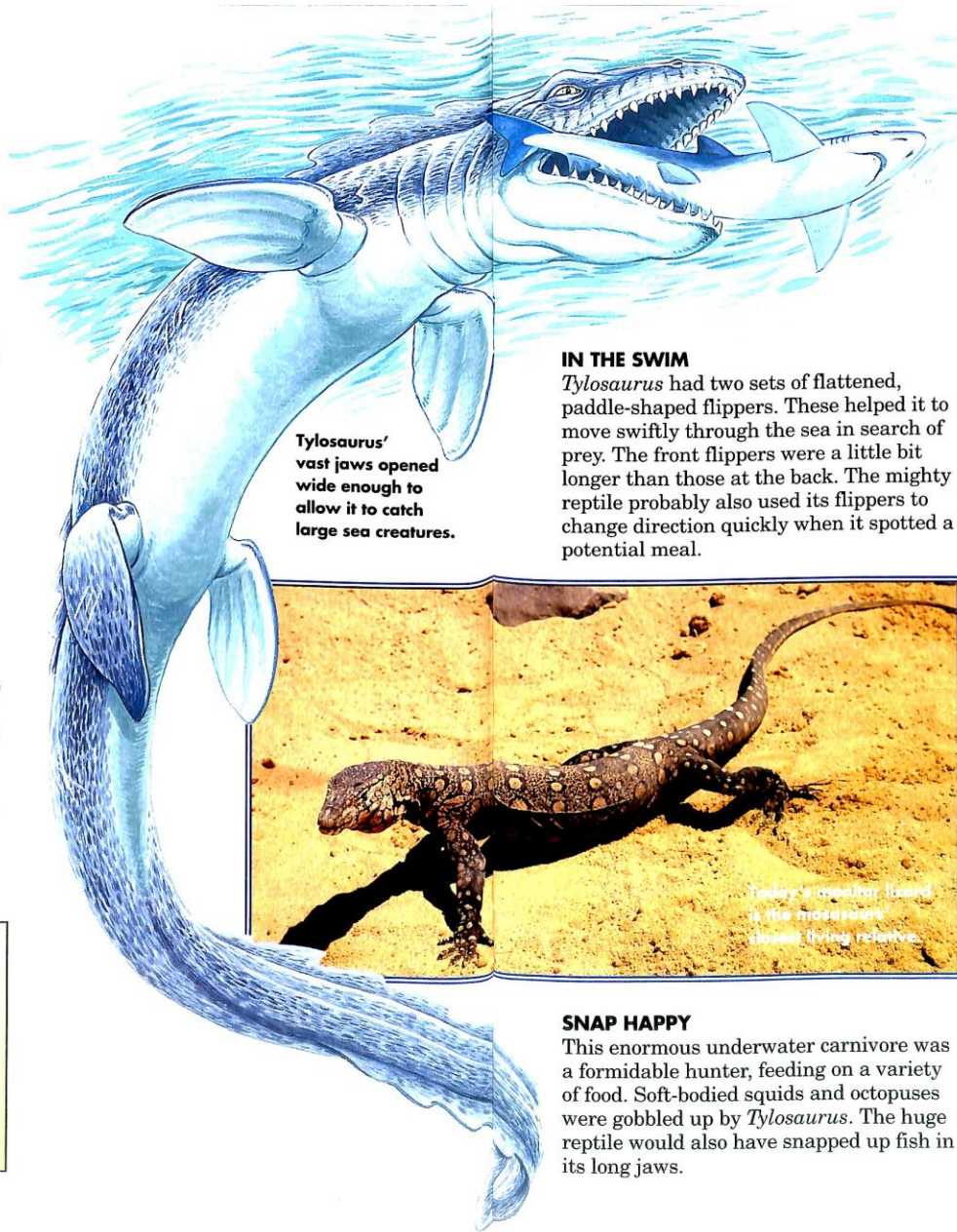
Mosasaurs had flexible joints between their skull bones and across their lower jaws. This enabled them to open their mouths very wide to attack and eat large sea creatures.

### SNAKES ALIVE

Mosasaurs were fully adapted to life at sea. A mosasaur needed strong muscles to move its great body through the water. *Tylosaurus* probably swam in a snake-like way by swinging its long, streamlined body from side to side. It also had a long tail that was well-designed for swimming. The tail's deep, flat-sided shape and the broad fin at the end would both have helped the creature push itself forwards.

## MONSTER FACTS

- **NAME:** *Tylosaurus* (tie-low-saw-rus) means 'swollen reptile'
- **GROUP:** reptile
- **SIZE:** up to 8m long
- **FOOD:** fish, shellfish
- **LIVED:** 70 million years ago in Late Cretaceous North America and New Zealand



**Tylosaurus' vast jaws opened wide enough to allow it to catch large sea creatures.**

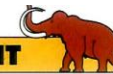
### IN THE SWIM

*Tylosaurus* had two sets of flattened, paddle-shaped flippers. These helped it to move swiftly through the sea in search of prey. The front flippers were a little bit longer than those at the back. The mighty reptile probably also used its flippers to change direction quickly when it spotted a potential meal.

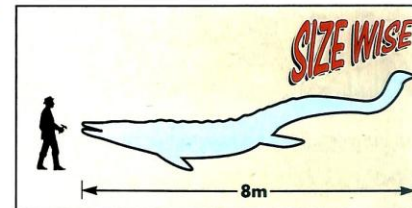
Today's monitor lizard is the mosasaur's closest living relative.

### SNAP HAPPY

This enormous underwater carnivore was a formidable hunter, feeding on a variety of food. Soft-bodied squids and octopuses were gobbled up by *Tylosaurus*. The huge reptile would also have snapped up fish in its long jaws.



## IDENTIKIT



### HARD DIET

*Tylosaurus* probably tackled well-armoured ammonites, too. Thousands of different species of ammonite teemed in the Mesozoic seas, but each one was protected by a tough, coiled shell.

### GET CRACKING

Most of the underwater meat-eaters were put off the ammonites by their hard shells, and steered clear of them. But scientists have proof that mosasaurs, such as *Tylosaurus*, crunched them up. They have found fossilized ammonite shells scarred with V-shaped, mosasaur tooth marks.

### SHELL SHOCK

Some of the shells had been bitten into as many as a dozen times. So even the sharp-toothed mosasaurs must have found it difficult to crack open ammonites!

## IT'S A FACT

### SHORT BUT SWEET

The mosasaurs were successful hunters, but the group did not last very long. They appeared towards the end of the Age of the Dinosaurs, and did not survive the great extinction.





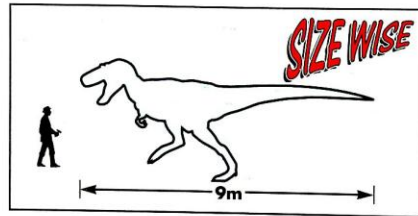
# ALECTROSAURUS

Mighty *Alectrosaurus* was one of the terrifying 'tyrant lizards'.

**T**he most famous tyrannosaur, or 'tyrant lizard', was *Tyrannosaurus rex*. *Alectrosaurus* was smaller than *T rex*, but just as fierce. Experts know a great deal about *T rex*, the 'tyrant king', because they have found many fossils, including two almost complete skeletons. But so far only a few leg and skull bones of *Alectrosaurus* have been discovered.

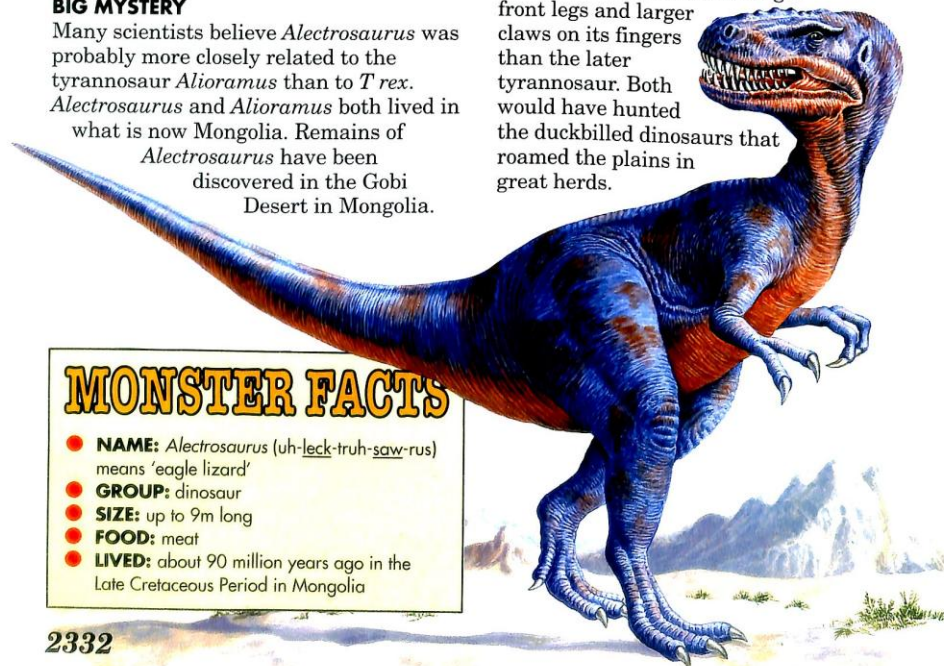
### BIG MYSTERY

Many scientists believe *Alectrosaurus* was probably more closely related to the tyrannosaur *Alioramus* than to *T rex*. *Alectrosaurus* and *Alioramus* both lived in what is now Mongolia. Remains of *Alectrosaurus* have been discovered in the Gobi Desert in Mongolia.



### THREE OF A KIND

*Alectrosaurus* was larger than *Alioramus*, but it had the same long skull. Unlike *Alioramus*, however, *Alectrosaurus* had a smooth snout. It also had larger front legs and larger claws on its fingers than the later tyrannosaur. Both would have hunted the duckbilled dinosaurs that roamed the plains in great herds.



**MONSTER FACTS**

- **NAME:** *Alectrosaurus* (uh-leck-truh-saw-rus) means 'eagle lizard'
- **GROUP:** dinosaur
- **SIZE:** up to 9m long
- **FOOD:** meat
- **LIVED:** about 90 million years ago in the Late Cretaceous Period in Mongolia

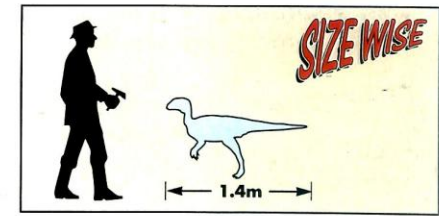
2332



# OTHNIELIA

*Othnielia*, a small, deer-like dinosaur, was built for speed.

**O***thnielia* belonged to the same family of plant-eaters as *Hypsilophodon*, but was only half the size of its better-known relative.



### FIRST AND LAST

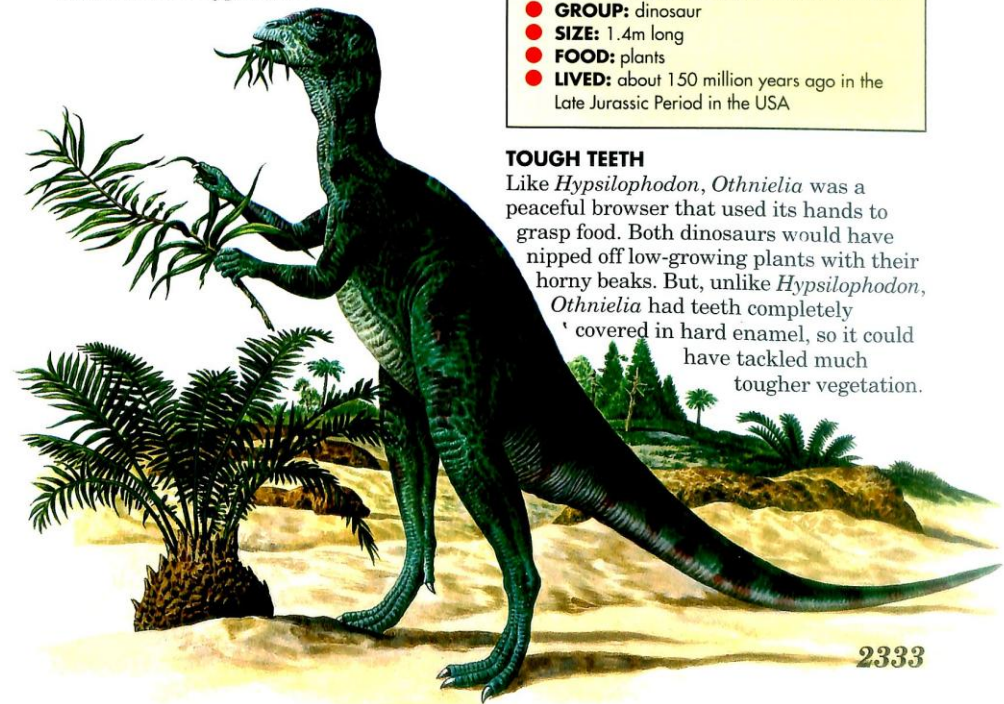
The fleet-footed hypsilophodonts (gazelle dinosaurs) flourished from the Late Jurassic to the end of the Age of the Dinosaurs. *Othnielia* was among the earliest of the hypsilophodonts.

## MONSTER FACTS

- **NAME:** *Othnielia* (oth-nee-lee-uh) means 'after Othniel', named after Othniel C. Marsh
- **GROUP:** dinosaur
- **SIZE:** 1.4m long
- **FOOD:** plants
- **LIVED:** about 150 million years ago in the Late Jurassic Period in the USA

### TOUGH TEETH

Like *Hypsilophodon*, *Othnielia* was a peaceful browser that used its hands to grasp food. Both dinosaurs would have nipped off low-growing plants with their horny beaks. But, unlike *Hypsilophodon*, *Othnielia* had teeth completely covered in hard enamel, so it could have tackled much tougher vegetation.



2333



# DINO SAFARI

## LATE TRIASSIC

# ARIZONA

The landscape is unfamiliar here, and there is a nasty smell of volcanic sulphur in the air. You are in Arizona, USA, about 220 million years ago.

You are standing on a mountainside, looking down on a river plain dotted with tall trees. Mountain streams glint in the early-morning sunshine as they twist through the vegetation, before reaching the broad swamps and lakes on the plain.

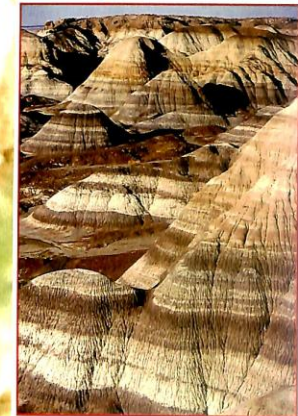
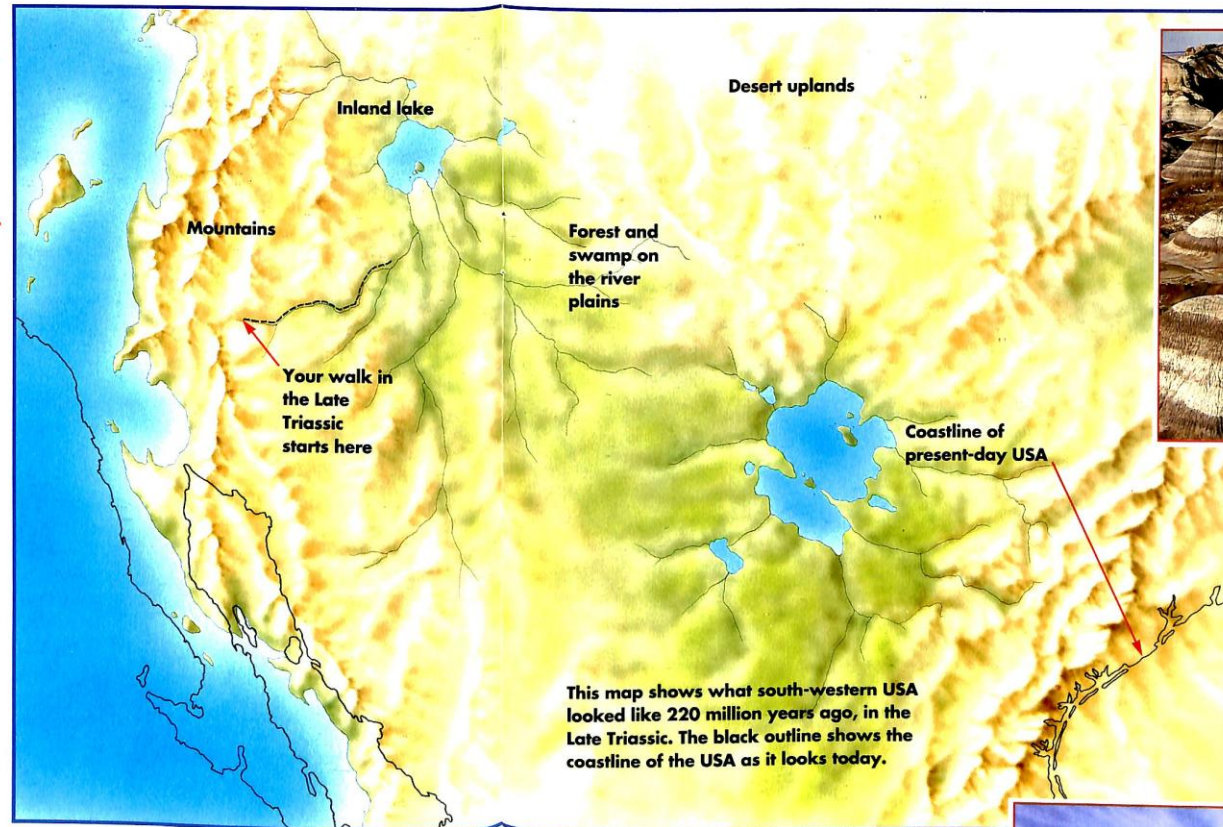
### DRY HEAT

The sun is rising and it is going to be another hot, dry day. You had better go down the mountain and take shelter in the shade of the woodlands. You might even see some dinosaurs there. You follow a stream down a gully, noticing trees such as cedars and ginkgos on the way. The woodland on the foothills is open, with fern-like bushes scattered here and there.

### HARMLESS BROWSERS

A movement catches your eye – big sheep-like shapes browsing on the scrubby vegetation. You leave the stream to take a closer look. They are mammal-like reptiles called *Placerias*. Heavy-bodied and big-headed, these creatures dig in the ground with their tusks, pulling up roots and stripping leaves from low-growing plants.

2334



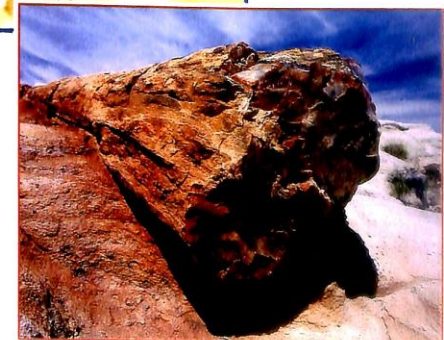
The Petrified Forest National Park in Arizona, USA, (above) has given scientists lots of information about what the land was like millions of years ago. This is because it is full of ancient fossilized, or petrified, trees (below) as well as animal fossils.

### DARK AND DAMP

You make your way back to the stream and continue downhill. As the land flattens out, the vegetation becomes very thick. The trees tower up to 60m above your head and their trunks are only about 4m apart. The branches close in and only a few shafts of sunlight now reach the ground. To speed up your journey you wade through the stream, watching the fishes and amphibians swimming there.

### BEWARE BEASTS!

Something floats to the surface in front of you. It is a huge amphibian called *Metoposaurus*. The head opens to reveal rows of tiny, sharp teeth and you turn towards the bank for safety. But your way is blocked by a fierce, crocodile-like animal. It is a phytosaur called *Rutiodon*. Crocodile or not, you don't trust those teeth! You splash through the shallows to the muddy bank and pull yourself to safety.



2335



**RAINSTORM**

You have reached the shelter of the forest just in time. It has started to rain heavily. Lightning flashes across the sky and thunder rumbles round the mountains.

**ARMoured PROTECTION**

A strange beast lumbers through the trees. All you can see is an armoured back, 4m long, pushing its way through the ferny undergrowth. It is *Desmatosuchus*, a kind of vegetarian crocodile.

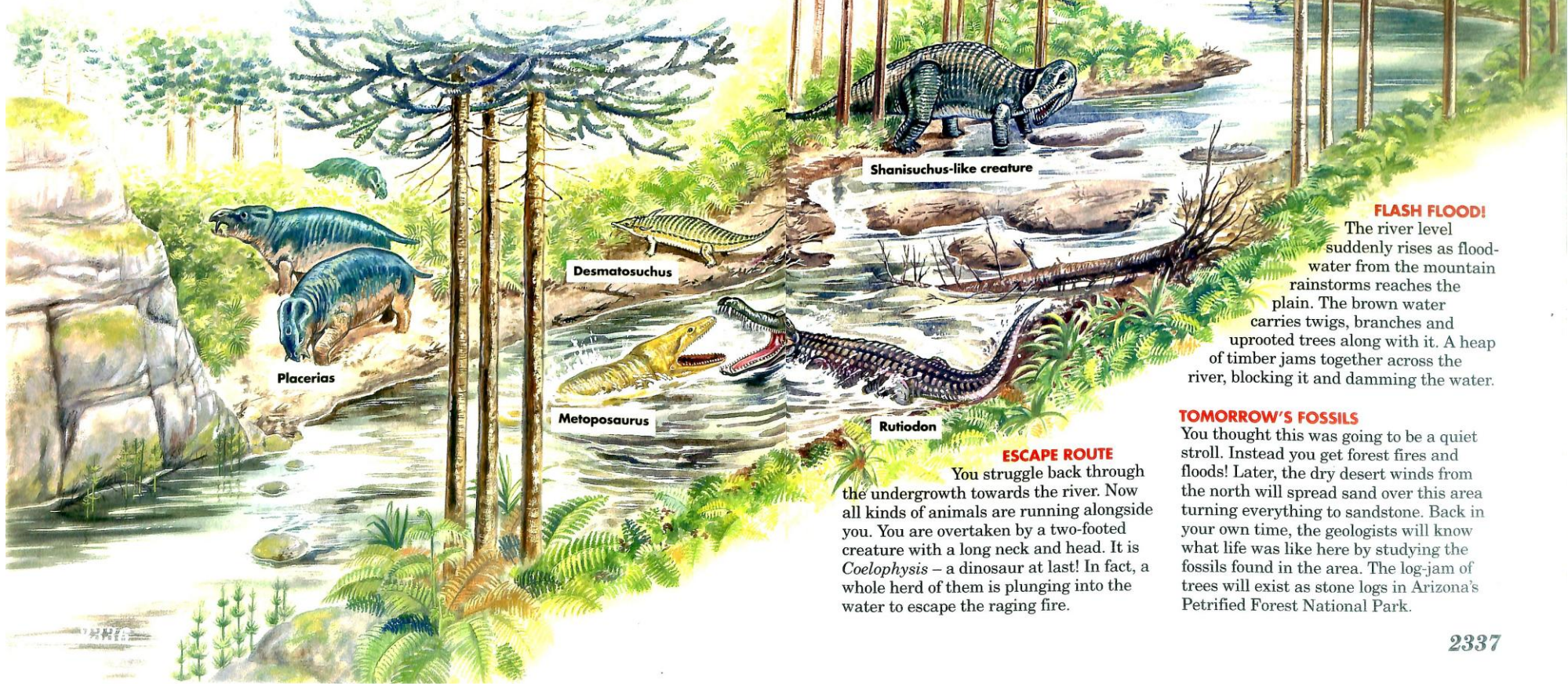
**ON THE RUN**

Next you spot an animal with a big head. You cannot identify it, but it is very like the thecodont *Shanisuchus*. It is a dangerous creature, but it does not seem to notice you. It is running fast!

**FIRE!**

Then you notice a strange smell, not the smell of the distant volcanoes, but the smell of burning wood. A forest fire has been started by the lightning during the storm.

This is what Arizona looked like about 220 million years ago. Rivers flowed down from volcanic mountains to wooded, swampy plains where many different animals lived.



Coelophysis

Shanisuchus-like creature

Desmatosuchus

Metoposaurus

Rutiodon

Placerias

**FLASH FLOOD!**

The river level suddenly rises as flood-water from the mountain rainstorms reaches the plain. The brown water carries twigs, branches and uprooted trees along with it. A heap of timber jams together across the river, blocking it and damming the water.

**ESCAPE ROUTE**

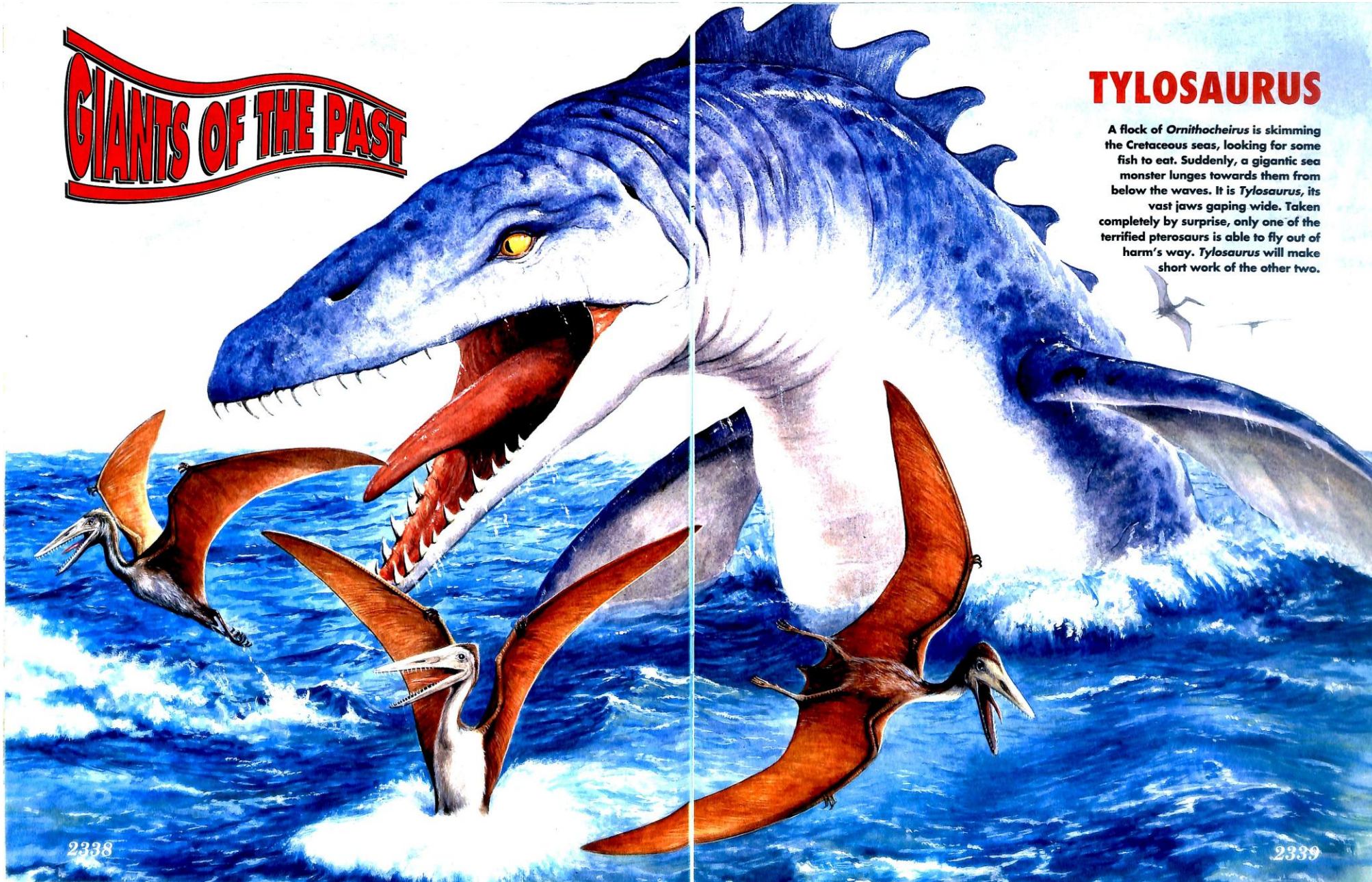
You struggle back through the undergrowth towards the river. Now all kinds of animals are running alongside you. You are overtaken by a two-footed creature with a long neck and head. It is *Coelophysis* – a dinosaur at last! In fact, a whole herd of them is plunging into the water to escape the raging fire.

**TOMORROW'S FOSSILS**

You thought this was going to be a quiet stroll. Instead you get forest fires and floods! Later, the dry desert winds from the north will spread sand over this area turning everything to sandstone. Back in your own time, the geologists will know what life was like here by studying the fossils found in the area. The log-jam of trees will exist as stone logs in Arizona's Petrified Forest National Park.



# GIANTS OF THE PAST



## TYLOSAURUS

A flock of *Ornithocheirus* is skimming the Cretaceous seas, looking for some fish to eat. Suddenly, a gigantic sea monster lunges towards them from below the waves. It is *Tylosaurus*, its vast jaws gaping wide. Taken completely by surprise, only one of the terrified pterosaurs is able to fly out of harm's way. *Tylosaurus* will make short work of the other two.

2338

2339



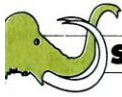
# 3-D Gallery 107

## HOMALOCEPHALE

A herd of *Homalocephale* has found a watering hole in the arid desert of Late Cretaceous Mongolia. As they begin to drink, they notice that *Prenocephale* has joined them. *Prenocephale* feels outnumbered and will not risk a violent head-butting encounter with its relatives.







# On Parade: sea monsters

Over millions of years, a huge variety of creatures have evolved to live in the world's oceans. Many are so fierce or so strange that they could be called monsters. Could the Loch Ness monster be one of these?



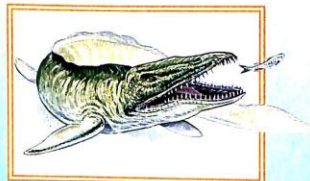
Life began in the water. The prehistoric seas and oceans swarmed with animals, from tiny creatures without backbones to huge hunters over 20m long. Here you can see some of the fish, reptiles and mammals that ruled the prehistoric seas.



**NAME:** *Elasmosaurus*  
**GROUP:** reptile  
**SIZE:** up to 14m long  
**LIVED:** Late Cretaceous in Asia and North America



**NAME:** *Cladoseleche*  
**GROUP:** fish  
**SIZE:** 50cm to 1.2m long  
**LIVED:** Late Devonian in Europe and North America



**NAME:** *Mosasaurus*  
**GROUP:** reptile  
**SIZE:** 4 - 9m long  
**LIVED:** Late Cretaceous North America, Africa and Europe



**NAME:** *Henodus*  
**GROUP:** reptile  
**SIZE:** 1m long  
**LIVED:** Late Triassic in southern Germany



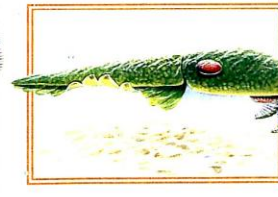
**NAME:** *Basilosaurus*  
**GROUP:** mammal  
**SIZE:** 15 - 23m long  
**LIVED:** Early Tertiary in Africa and North America



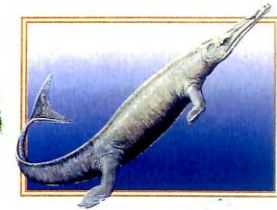
**NAME:** *Hybodus*  
**GROUP:** fish  
**SIZE:** 2m long  
**LIVED:** Triassic oceans throughout the world



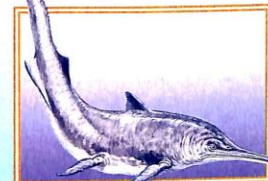
**NAME:** *Macropoma*  
**GROUP:** fish  
**SIZE:** about 55cm long  
**LIVED:** Late Cretaceous in Europe



**NAME:** *Anomalocaris*  
**GROUP:** unknown  
**SIZE:** up to 60cm long  
**LIVED:** Early Cambrian throughout the world



**NAME:** *Geosaurus*  
**GROUP:** reptile  
**SIZE:** about 3m long  
**LIVED:** Late Jurassic in South America and Europe



**NAME:** *Mixosaurus*  
**GROUP:** reptile  
**SIZE:** 1m long  
**LIVED:** Middle Triassic in Asia, Europe and North America



**NAME:** *Dunkleosteus*  
**GROUP:** fish  
**SIZE:** up to 9m long  
**LIVED:** Devonian in North America and Europe



**NAME:** *Xiphactinus*  
**GROUP:** fish  
**SIZE:** about 4.3m long  
**LIVED:** Cretaceous in southern North America



**NAME:** *Nothosaurus*  
**GROUP:** reptile  
**SIZE:** up to 3m long  
**LIVED:** Mid Triassic in Germany and South Africa



**NAME:** *Kronosaurus*  
**GROUP:** reptile  
**SIZE:** up to 12m long  
**LIVED:** Late Cretaceous in Australia


### KEY

- CAMBRIAN PERIOD 570-505 MYA
- ORDOVICIAN PERIOD 505-438 MYA
- SILURIAN PERIOD 438-408 MYA
- DEVONIAN PERIOD 408-362 MYA
- CARBONIFEROUS PERIOD 362-290 MYA
- PERMIAN PERIOD 290-245 MYA
- TRIASSIC PERIOD 245-208 MYA
- JURASSIC PERIOD 208-145 MYA
- CRETACEOUS PERIOD 145-66 MYA
- TERTIARY PERIOD 66-2 MYA



# Fossil weather

**What was the climate like during the Age of the Dinosaurs? Clues from rocks and fossils, and today's weather can help us to find out.**

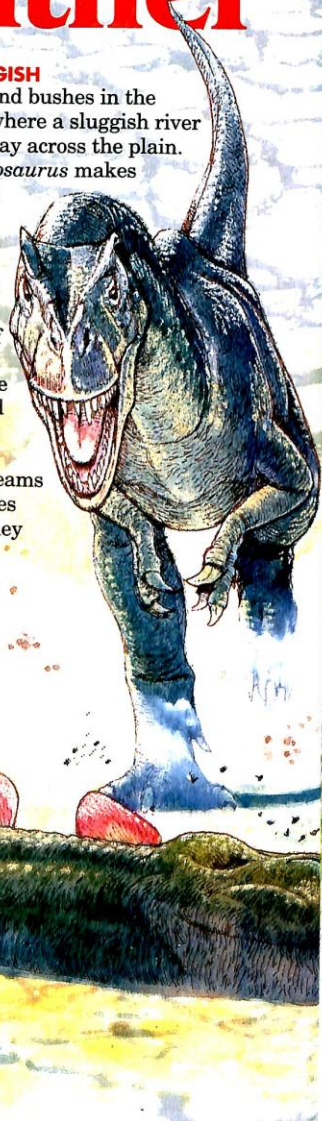
 **A**n *Allosaurus* strides from the shade of a conifer, out into the dazzling sunlight. It is looking for food. A hot wind is blowing dust across the surface of the bare ground, drying up what little moisture is left. The low plants are shrivelling up in the summer heat. No plant-eating animal would be out in the open under these conditions.

## GETTING SLUGGISH

A row of trees and bushes in the distance show where a sluggish river is winding its way across the plain. The hungry *Allosaurus* makes its way towards the water.

## DRYING UP

The broad river is almost dry. Only a trickle of water winds its way between the teardrop-shaped sandbanks. The river branches into smaller streams and then reunites on its long journey to the sea.



## ONCE A LAKE

*Allosaurus* continues downstream, across the vast expanse of a dried-up lake bed. In the wet season this would be a broad sheet of water. Now, all that is left of the lake is a flat pan of dried, cracked mud.

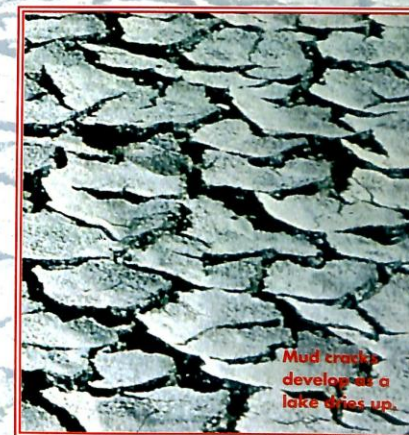
## TO THE SEA

The dinosaur strides on in the dry wind. In the distance, a horizon of sparkling light shows the edge of the shallow sea. Before long, the dinosaur finds itself on a beach with wind-blown sand dunes and water lapping at the edge of the shore. But even here there is dryness in the air. Between the dunes there are broad lagoons that have dried up in the seasonal drought.

## AT LAST, FOOD!

Then, success! A big *Stegosaurus* lies dead by the side of a lagoon. Maybe killed by thirst, or poisoned by the extreme saltiness of the water it could not resist drinking. The smell of flesh reaches the *Allosaurus*, telling it there is food about. It finds the body quickly and begins to eat.

*Allosaurus* comes across the body of a big *Stegosaurus* in a dried-up lagoon. This kind of dry surface is good for making fossilized footprints. Millions of years later, a trackway like this can tell us the story of a dinosaur walking across a dry lake bed to look for food or water.



Mud cracks develop at a lake dries up.

## THE DROUGHT BREAKS

While *Allosaurus* is eating, the sky grows dark. A storm cloud has been building up unnoticed over the sea. Now heavy raindrops begin to splash against the flanks of the dinosaur, and thud into the dusty soil at its feet. The drought seems to be over, for the time being at least.

## FACT, OR FICTION?

This is just a story. But how sure are we that these kinds of weather actually existed at the time of the dinosaurs?

## What is?

### UNIFORMITARIANISM

A big word invented by Scottish geologist James Hutton in 1795. It means that conditions on the Earth's surface today – climate, weather, erosion and so on – are the same as those that existed at any time in the Earth's history. By studying modern conditions, we can work out what things were like in prehistoric times. As James Hutton put it: 'The present is the key to the past.'



**WRITTEN IN STONE**

All the clues to what the climate and weather were like in the past are here in the rocks for us to read today. We know that different types of rock are formed under different conditions. Shales form from mud deposited in quiet waters. Sandstones form from sand deposited on beaches or in deserts, and siltstones form from silt deposits in rivers. The different structures in these rocks can tell us even more about the weather and climatic conditions in prehistoric times.

**ARID LANDS**

In dry climates, the hot sun and wind draw up any moisture out of the ground. Minerals, such as calcite, dissolved in the ground water are left near the surface as the water evaporates (dries up). This produces a layer of limestone nodules (lumps) just under the top of the soil.

**HARD EVIDENCE**

We can see these lumps today in the dry plains of India and the grasslands of East Africa. We also find the limestone layers in the Late Jurassic rocks of North America, along with the skeletons of *Allosaurus*, *Apatosaurus* and *Stegosaurus*. So we know that these dinosaurs lived on dry plains.

**WATER SHAPES**

Rivers carry lots of ground-up rocks (silt) and sand. When the river slows, it drops the sand and silt on its bed. This material builds up into long tongue-shaped mounds.

**Lightning sometimes fossilizes! If a sandy area is struck by lightning, the heat will cause the sand grains to join together into a tube. This picture (right) shows the result of lightning striking volcanic ash, which has small, sand-like particles.**



**THE SHAPE OF THE PAST**

Eventually the silt and sand turn to rock – siltstone and sandstone. You can tell which rocks were formed in rivers because they are full of sloping, S-shaped layers. The same kind of shapes are found in rocks formed in sand dunes, but the layers are much bigger.

**CRACKING UP**

When a lake or a pond dries up, the top layer of mud shrinks in the sun and cracks up. These mud cracks are sometimes found preserved in mudstones. When we see them, we know the weather was dry at that time.

**THE SANDS OF TIME**

Waves washing against a beach push the sand into ripples. These can be seen in some rocks. They tell us where there were beaches.

**NEW CRYSTALS FOR OLD**

If a pool of seawater dries up slowly, the salt forms large cube-shaped crystals. These salt crystals will eventually dissolve away, leaving cube-shaped pits in the dried mud. The next layer of mud will fill in these pits and take the shape of the crystals. When we find these shapes in the rocks (called 'pseudomorphs' by geologists), we can tell that seawater dried out here.

**FOSSILIZED RAIN**

Sometimes we find fossil rain. Raindrops hitting mud will produce rounded pits. These rain pits in mudstone prove that there was rainfall in this place long ago.

**WEATHER DETECTIVE**

As well as all this evidence, the scientists can look at plant fossils to see if there were dry-climate plants or rainforest plants living at a particular place. By putting these clues together, scientists can work out what the weather and climate were like when the dinosaurs lived.

**Weather can leave evidence in the rocks, and this helps today's experts to work out what conditions were like millions of years ago.**

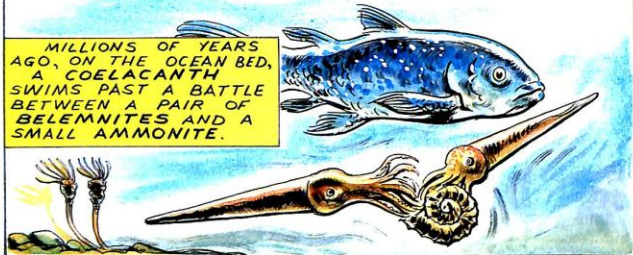




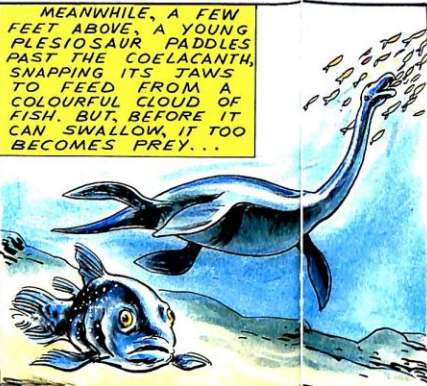


# SEAVOLUTION!

MILLIONS OF YEARS AGO, ON THE OCEAN BED, A COELACANTH SWIMS PAST A BATTLE BETWEEN A PAIR OF BELEMNITES AND A SMALL AMMONITE.



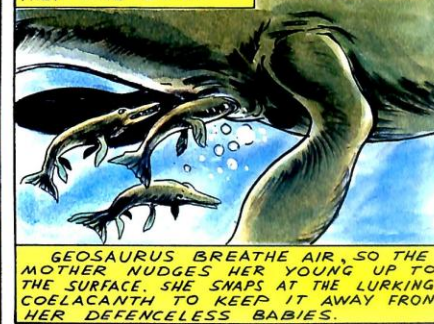
MEANWHILE, A FEW FEET ABOVE, A YOUNG PLESIOSAUR PADDLES PAST THE COELACANTH, SNAPPING ITS JAWS TO FEED FROM A COLOURFUL CLOUD OF FISH. BUT, BEFORE IT CAN SWALLOW, IT TOO BECOMES PREY...



... BEFORE THE PLESIOSAUR KNOWS WHAT HAS HIT IT, A GEOSAURUS' SHARP TEETH RIP INTO ITS SIDE.



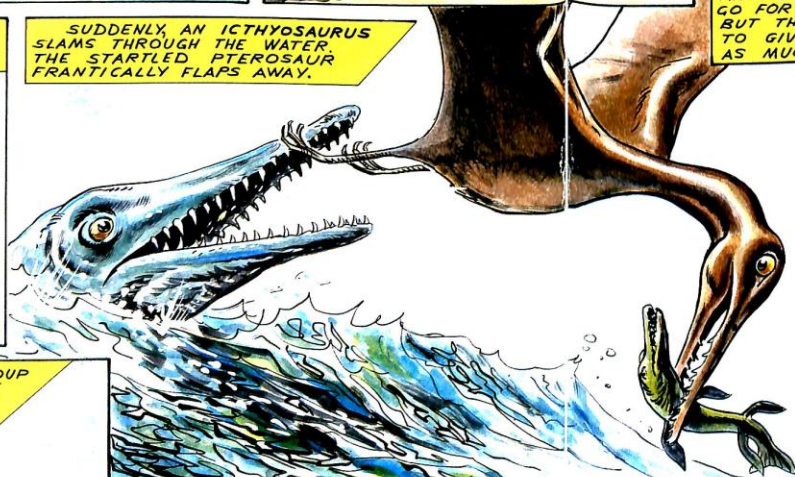
SOON AFTER EATING THE PLESIOSAUR, THE GEOSAURUS GIVES BIRTH. THE BABIES CAN SWIM AS SOON AS THEY ARE BORN.



UNFORTUNATELY, A PTEROSAUR HAS SPOTTED THEM SWIMMING IN THE CRYSTAL-CLEAR WATER.

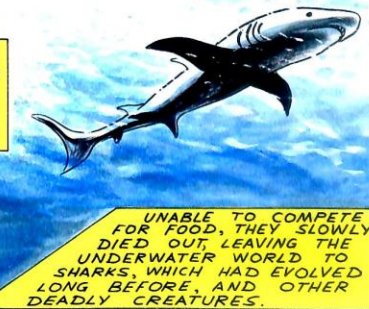


SUDDENLY, AN ICTHYOSAURUS SLAMS THROUGH THE WATER, THE STARTLED PTEROSAUR FRANTICALLY FLAPS AWAY.



NORMALLY, THE SEA-CROCODILE GEOSAURUS WOULD IGNORE AN ADULT PLESIOSAUR AND GO FOR THE COELACANTH, BUT THIS FEMALE IS ABOUT TO GIVE BIRTH AND NEEDS AS MUCH FOOD AS POSSIBLE.

AS THE MILLENIA PASSED, FAST-SWIMMING, BONY FISH EVOLVED, GRADUALLY REPLACING THE SLOWER FISH THAT THE SEA-CROCODILES LIVED ON.



UNABLE TO COMPETE FOR FOOD, THEY SLOWLY DIED OUT, LEAVING THE UNDERWATER WORLD TO SHARKS, WHICH HAD EVOLVED LONG BEFORE, AND OTHER DEADLY CREATURES.

MOSASAURUS, ONE OF A GROUP OF SWIMMING LIZARDS, IS ONE OF THESE CREATURES. SHARKS AND MOSASAURUS ONLY ATTACK EACH OTHER IF THE PREY IS MUCH SMALLER THAN THE PREDATOR.



THE BELEMNITES, AMMONITES, SEA-CROCODILES, MOSASAURS AND MANY OF THE FISHES THAT SWAM ALONGSIDE THEM HAVE LONG SINCE VANISHED BUT 370 SPECIES OF SHARK REMAIN, RANGING IN SIZE FROM LITTLE DOG-FISH TO MAN-EATING GIANTS.



SCIENTISTS KNEW ABOUT THE COELACANTH FROM FOSSILS, BUT THOUGHT THAT IT HAD DIED OUT MILLIONS OF YEARS BEFORE. THEN, ONE DAY IN THE 1930s, OFF THE COAST OF SOUTH AFRICA...



WHAT IS IT?

IT TURNED OUT TO BE A COELACANTH - A WITNESS TO THE WORLD OF SEA-CROCODILES, MOSASAURS, PLESOSAURS AND THE OTHER BEASTS THAT USED TO TERRORISE THE UNDERWATER WORLD!



# Improve and test your knowledge with... FACT FILE

Dimetrodon holds all the answers. See how you score in the quiz.

## Noisy places

The noises that dinosaurs made would have depended on their habitat. Those living in open plains would have used low growls - sounds that bounce along the ground. Those in forests would have used high squeaks that would penetrate the foliage.

## Familiar names

Palaeontologists give nicknames to the particular skeletons they are excavating. Various specimens of *Tyrannosaurus* have been named 'Black Beauty', 'Scotty' and 'Sue'. The big *Seismosaurus* skeleton is called 'Sam'.

- 1** What was *Amebelodon*?  
a) an amoeba  
b) an elephant  
c) a poisonous plant

- 2** Where did the dinosaur *Alectrosaurus* live?  
a) Mongolia  
b) Canada  
c) USA

- 3** What is ichnology the study of?  
a) fossilized lightning  
b) prehistoric footprints  
c) prehistoric diseases

- 4** What are shales formed from?  
a) mud deposited in quiet water  
b) ash left by volcanoes  
c) fossilized bones

- 5** *Cladoselache* was a:  
a) mammal  
b) reptile  
c) fish

- 10** Which believed-to-be-extinct animal was discovered in the 1930s?  
a) dodo  
b) coelacanth  
c) roc

- 9** *Othnielia*'s teeth were completely covered in:  
a) holes  
b) plaque  
c) enamel

- 8** What was *Desmatosuchus*?  
a) a meat-eating alligator  
b) a vegetarian crocodile  
c) a fish-eating shark

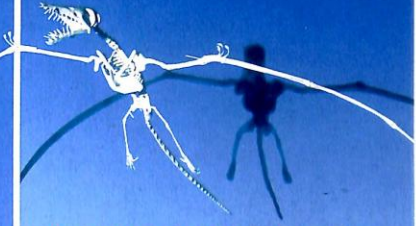
- 7** What is *Tylosaurus*' closest living relative?  
a) the monitor lizard  
b) the great white shark  
c) the crocodile

- 6** What did *Homalocephale* use to defend itself?  
a) its beak  
b) its head  
c) its tail club

## Varied diet

*Diplodocus* had a tooth and mouth structure that would have allowed it to eat just about any kind of plant that grew in Late Jurassic North America.

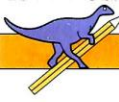
## Pterosaur terror



Imagine this beast landing on your bird-table! This is a skeletal restoration of the pterosaur *Rhamphorhynchus*. Notice its sharp, forward-pointing teeth. These helped it to grip slippery fish. Many fossil *Rhamphorhynchus* have been found at the Solnhofen limestone quarries.

Answers to the questions on inside back cover

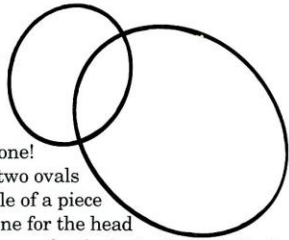




## HOW TO DRAW

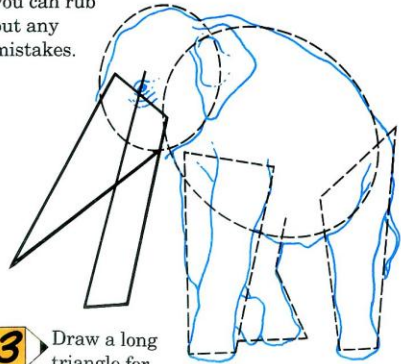
# AMEBELODON

**1** It is easy to draw an elephant, even a prehistoric one! First draw two ovals in the middle of a piece of paper – one for the head and a larger one for the body. *Amebelodon* has a short neck, so make the ovals overlap. Draw quite softly so you can rub out any mistakes.

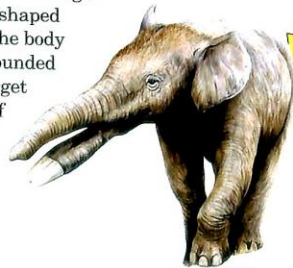
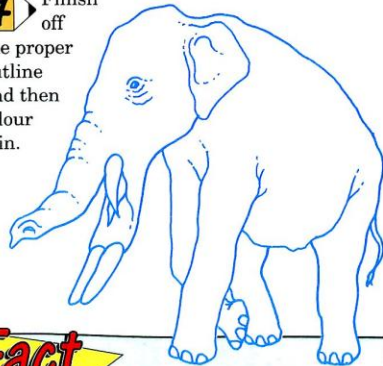


**2** Next put in some rough guidelines for the position of *Amebelodon*'s legs – remember that one of the back legs is partly covered by the front legs. If you like, you can already start to sketch in the details of the head.

**3** Draw a long triangle for the trunk and a rectangle for the shovel-shaped tusks. Fill in the body outline with rounded lines. Don't forget the other set of tusks and the tail.



**4** Finish off the proper outline and then colour it in.



## Fact box

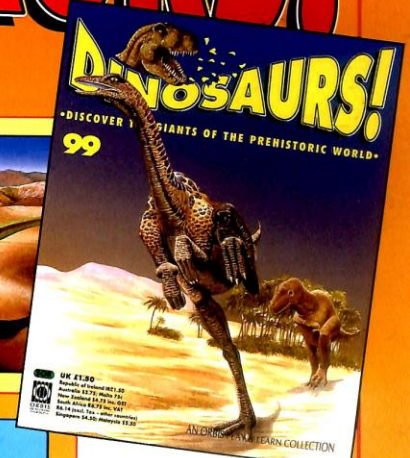
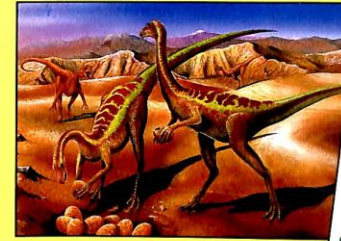
- **NAME:** *Amebelodon* (am-eh-bel-oh-don) means 'blunt weapon tooth'
- **GROUP:** mammal
- **SIZE:** up to 7m long
- **FOOD:** water plants
- **LIVED:** about 10 million years ago in the Late Miocene in North America

2352

COMING IN PART 99 OF

# DINOSAURS!

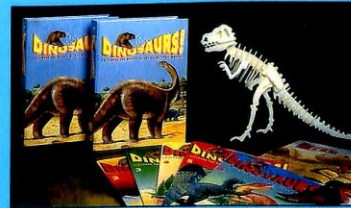
Meet the successful reptiles in PREHISTORIC WORLD. Catch up on the latest pterosaur news in SPOTTER'S GUIDE.



## Keep your DINOSAURS! safe

Keep your copies safe and neat with these fantastic binders.

Your binders have been designed to look good at home or at school. Each is sturdy and hardwearing – it even has a wipe-clean cover – and holds 13 issues. You'll want to use your DINOSAURS! collection again and again – for reference, for school projects, or just for fun. So don't let your copies go missing, keep them in your own set of binders.



DINOSAURS! binders are now available and cost just £4.95 (including £1 p&p). Please refer to the information on the inside front cover or telephone 0424 755755 for details.

## PLUS

Three amazing creatures in IDENTIKIT and HISTORY IN PICTURES 3-D GALLERY GIANTS OF THE PAST

**PICTURE CREDITS** Front Cover: Philip Hood/WJAA; M.P.I. Trogden/Bruce Coleman; 2325TR: M. R. Pflucton/Bruce Coleman; 2331L: Classroom Features Picture Library; 2345TR: 2346: 471: David Hestings/EIPA; 2335BR: P. Wellinkhater; 2351: Andrew Robson/Corbis/WJAA; 2326: 37: 2346BR: Mike Dorry; 2348: 49: Brian Edwards/WJAA; 2343TC: Tim Hayward/Bernard Thornton Artists; 2342TR: 2343CL: James Higgins/WJAA; 2343TL: Philip Hood/WJAA; 2333: 2352: Neil Lloyd; 2342BC: James Hestings; 2324: 231: Bob Mathias; 2352I: Debra McHale/BC; Emma Wilkinson; 2342TL: Steve Roberts/WJAA; 2343C: James Roberts; 2342TR: 2348: 65: 72: 86: 2347: Graham Rossington; 2342TC: 86: 2343TR: C.B. B. Peter David Scott/WJAA; 2338: 39: 2352BL: Chris Tambuli/WJAA; 2329: 2330: 31: Steve White; 2340: 41.

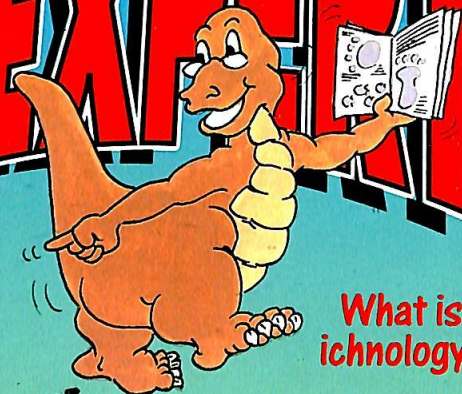
ANSWERS TO FACT FILE QUESTIONS: 1.b, 2.a, 3.a, 4.a, 5.c, 6.b, 7.a, 8.b, 9.c, 10.b





Dr David Norman of Cambridge University answers your dinosaur questions

# ASK THE EXPERT



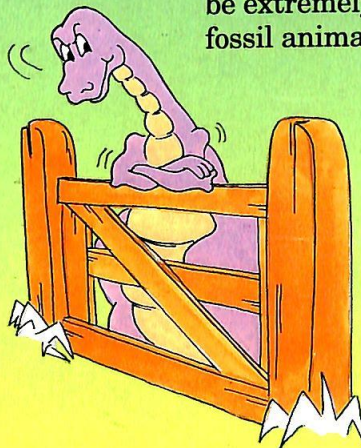
**Might there have been really tiny dinosaurs - the size of a sparrow today?**

Dinosaur babies are known from fossil finds to be very small – in the range of 10 – 20cm long. This is tiny compared to their adult size, but they grew extremely quickly to avoid being small and vulnerable for too long. Really tiny adult dinosaurs are not at all well known. Being small is quite a difficult and dangerous lifestyle for many active vertebrates. It seems likely that the things that made dinosaurs so successful were largely linked to their greater size. Lizards, small mammals and birds (which may, in fact, be the only successful small dinosaurs) seem to have conquered the small-scale world very effectively. So, birds and babies apart, I do not think that there were any naturally tiny dinosaurs.



**What is ichnology?**

Put very simply, this is a branch of palaeontology which is devoted to the study of footprints. If you think about it, a footprint is one of the very few pieces of evidence that tells us what a fossil creature did when it was alive – we are mostly dealing with odd bones or skeletons of a dead animal. The footprint was left by an animal when it was alive, and this can be extremely useful in our studies of all fossil animals, not just dinosaurs.



**Did dinosaurs have territories or did they roam everywhere?**

I do not think there is a simple answer to this. It is likely that some were very territorial, while others wandered all over the place.

Just like animals today, it would have depended upon their lifestyle. I think that dinosaurs covered the full range of possibilities – from highly territorial to completely non-territorial.

