

Dinosaurs

Dinosaurs are a group of _____ that lived between 230 and 65 million years ago during the _____ Era. This era was split into three time periods. The Triassic period saw a time when the land formed just one _____ which was hot, dry and desert like. However, earthquakes and _____ helped split the land into two. During the Jurassic period, _____ fell and rainfall increased, leading to the growth of more green, _____ plants. Then, during the Cretaceous period, the land separated further, into some of the continents we know today.

Dinosaurs _____ differently depending on where they lived. They came in many different shapes and sizes, ranging from the chicken-sized Compsognathus, to the gigantic Diplodocus, one of the _____ animals to have ever walked the Earth. This allowed them to survive in a variety of different _____.

The word dinosaur comes from the _____ language, meaning 'terrible lizard'. Scientists who study dinosaurs are called _____. They study the _____ of animals and plants that lived a very, very long time ago.

Meat eating dinosaurs like the _____, would often be fast, with sharp teeth and _____. Plant eating dinosaurs like the _____, often developed spikes, horns or tough _____ to protect themselves.

Suddenly, some 65 million years ago, dinosaurs _____ completely, except for _____, which are _____ from meat eating dinosaurs. Experts think that there must have been a _____ event, such as an asteroid impact or volcanic eruption. These events could have blocked out the _____, changing conditions on _____.

birds	temperatures	volcanoes	sunlight	reptiles	Tyrannosaurus Rex	descended	claws	Stegosaurus	Mesozoic	leafy
Greek	disappeared	continent	largest	fossils	palaeontologists	evolved	Earth	catastrophic	ecosystems	skin

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Dinosaurs

Dinosaurs are a group of **reptiles** that lived between 230 and 65 million years ago during the **Mesozoic** Era. This era was split into three time periods. The Triassic period saw a time when the land formed just one **continent** which was hot, dry and desert like. However, earthquakes and **volcanoes** helped split the land into two. During the Jurassic period, **temperatures** fell and rainfall increased, leading to the growth of more green, **leafy** plants. Then, during the Cretaceous period, the land separated further, into some of the continents we know today.

Dinosaurs **evolved** differently depending on where they lived. They came in many different shapes and sizes, ranging from the chicken-sized Compsognathus, to the gigantic Diplodocus, one of the **largest** animals to have ever walked the Earth. This allowed them to survive in a variety of different **ecosystems**.

The word dinosaur comes from the **Greek** language, meaning 'terrible lizard'. Scientists who study dinosaurs are called **palaeontologists**. They study the **fossils** of animals and plants that lived a very, very long time ago.

Meat eating dinosaurs like the **Tyrannosaurus Rex**, would often be fast, with sharp teeth and **claws**. Plant eating dinosaurs like the **Stegosaurus**, often developed spikes, horns or tough **skin** to protect themselves.

Suddenly, some 65 million years ago, dinosaurs **disappeared** completely, except for **birds**, which are **descended** from meat eating dinosaurs. Experts think that there must have been a **catastrophic** event, such as an asteroid impact or volcanic eruption. These events could have blocked out the **sunlight**, changing conditions on **Earth**.

birds	temperatures	volcanoes	sunlight	reptiles	Tyrannosaurus Rex	descended	claws	Stegosaurus	Mesozoic	leafy
Greek	disappeared	continent	largest	fossils	palaeontologists	evolved	Earth	catastrophic	ecosystems	skin

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