

American Montessori Society & schleich® Video 4 - Dinosaur Facts Lesson Plan

Click [HERE](#) to view video.

Ideal for Ages: 4 to 6

Materials Needed for Lesson:

- mat
- basket of dinosaurs
- dinosaur fact cards (use with or without pictures) - Click [HERE](#) to access & print fact cards.
- dinosaur letter tracing sheets – Click [HERE](#) to access & print letter tracing sheets.

schleich® dinosaur suggestions include:

- 14525 Tyrannosaurus Rex
- 14584 Acrocanthosaurus
- 15029 Amargasaurus
- 14582 Utahraptor
- 15019 Ceratosaurus

Directions:

- Make a book using the fact cards with coordinating template/printable.
- Match the dinosaur to their fact cards.

Extension:

- Use a 3-period lesson to teach the names of the animals.

Facts – Talking Points for Lesson:

Tyrannosaurus Rex (tr-a-nuh-saw-ruhs reks) – Often called T. rex.

- Where did it live? Western North America.
- When did it live? 68-66 million years ago during the Cretaceous period.
- Was it a carnivore or herbivore? The Tyrannosaurus Rex was a carnivore.
- Other facts:
 - A large skull (head) was balanced by a long tail.
 - The forelimbs (arms) were small and had two large claws.
 - The Tyrannosaurus Rex is one of the largest known land predators.

Acrocanthosaurus (a-krow-kan-thuh-saw-ruhs)

- Where did it live? It was believed to live in North America during the Cretaceous period.
- When did it live? Its bones were found in Oklahoma, Texas, and Wyoming.
- Was it a carnivore or herbivore? The Acrocanthosaurus was a carnivore.
- Other facts:
 - The Acrocanthosaurus is known for the high spines on its vertebrae (small bones forming the back bones). These spines covered the dinosaur's neck, back and hips.
 - The forelimbs (arms in front) were shorter and did not reach the ground.
 - It had three sharp claws on each foot!
 - This is the only species of its kind that was found of this dinosaur.

Amargasaurus (uh-marg-uh-sawr-us)

- Where did it live? It was found in Argentina.
- When did it live? It is believed to have live in the early Cretaceous period.
- Was it a carnivore or herbivore? The Amargasaurus was an herbivore (eating only plants).
- Other facts:
 - There are two parallel (side by side) rows of spines down the neck and back.
 - It moved on all four legs.
 - This is the only known fossil of a dinosaur found that was mostly complete. Almost all the bones were there!

Utahraptor (you-tah-wrap-tore)

- Where did it live? Remains were found in Utah, hence the name.
- When did it live? It is believed to have lived in the early Cretaceous period.
- Was it a carnivore or herbivore? The Utahraptor was a carnivore.
- Other facts:
 - It had a large, curved claw on its second toe.
 - This dinosaur compares to a polar bear in weight, scientists think!
 - There is strong evidence that the Utahraptor had feathers.
 - This dinosaur was not very fast but used its sharp claws when hunting its prey (an animal that is hunted for food by another).

Ceratosaurus (sr·a·tow·saw·ruhs)

- Where did it live? This dinosaur was found in Colorado (North America), Portugal (Europe), and even Tanzania (Africa).
- When did it live? Scientists think this dinosaur lived in what was the late Jurassic Period.
- Was it a carnivore or herbivore? Scientists think it preyed (to hunt for food) on herbivores (plant eaters) and aquatic prey (fish).
- Other facts:
 - The Ceratosaurus had very deep jaws and long teeth.
 - There was a horn like structure on top of its snout (nose).
 - It had horns over its eyes.
 - Its fore limbs (arms in front of animal) were short with four fingers on each.