

Design a Dinosaur



Links with the Dinosaur Dreaming site:

Evidence of a great variety of dinosaurs has been discovered at the dig site.

These include

Pterosaurs (tair-oh-saws) - flying reptiles from the size of a seagull to that of a car

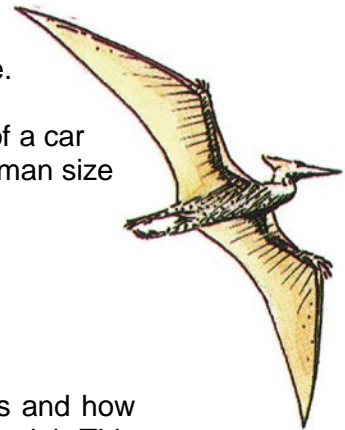
Ornithomimids - small two legged plant-eating reptiles from chicken size to human size

Carnosaurs – meat eating dinosaurs up to 5 meters long

Ceratopsians - 4 legged plant- eaters about the size of a sheep

Ankylosaurus – 4 legged armour plated plant – eaters

Temnospondyls - 4 legged amphibians similar to Mexican walking fish



Links to curriculum:

This activity encourages students to think about the structure of dinosaurs and how they lived and to visually represent their knowledge and thoughts in a model. This activity links to the Arts, Science and Maths domains of VELS.

Materials needed:

Plasticine, Playdoh or clay

Feathers, toothpicks, cardboard, coloured paper, paint

Objects for eyes eg beads, seeds

Scissors, paste

Shoe box for extension activity



Procedure:

1. Examine illustrations of dinosaurs from this page, books or the internet.
2. Decide on the shape and features of your dinosaur eg does it have wings, does it walk on 4 legs, what is its body covering made of, what would it eat?
3. Draw a simple sketch of your dinosaur
4. Select materials and make a model of your dinosaur
5. Name your dinosaur using the information from the “Naming Dinosaur” activity

Extension work:

Research what type of environment this dinosaur would have lived in. What type of plants would have been present? Would it be swampy, a rainforest or a desert? Create a diorama using a box like shoe box. Paint the inside of the box to illustrate the rocks and plants that would have been present. Make some plants from cardboard and assemble them in the diorama. Place your dinosaur within its ‘new’ environment.

Describe your dinosaur and its living place to the rest of your group or class.



Illustrations courtesy of Peter Trusler & Jeremy Kool