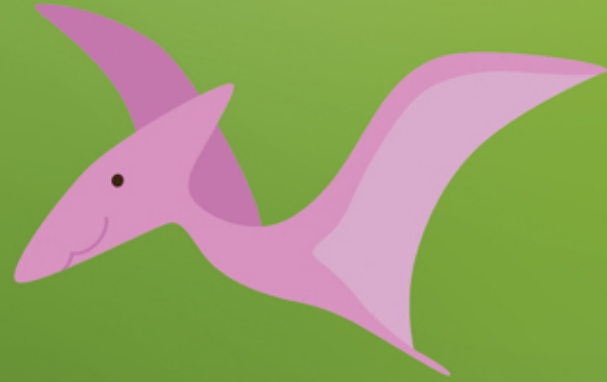


# DINOSAURS



## THEMED PROGRAMME



### AIM

Time travel to the Jurassic world with a themed programme centred around some incredible dinosaurs. Spend time meeting these creatures, creating fossils, fighting T-rexs and hatching eggs. Just try not to get eaten along the way!

### ACTIVITIES

-  Meet the Dinosaurs
-  Dino Dash
-  Dinosaur Fossils
-  Dino-Tail Demolition
-  Hatching Dinosaur Eggs
-  How I'd Beat a T-Rex...

# DINOSAURS

## » INTRODUCTION

Dinosaurs are fascinating creatures and they were some of the most huge, powerful and downright strange creatures ever to have lived! They came in all sorts of shapes and sizes, some walking and others flying. In total there were over 700 different species, each with their own unique characteristics.

Whilst dinosaurs may now be long extinct, we are still fascinated by them and always learning more about what they were like.

## ? DID YOU KNOW?

- Dinosaur fossils have been found on every continent around the world – including Antarctica!
- 'Dino' comes from a Greek word which means terrible and 'Saurus' means lizard.
- The Tyrannosaurus Rex had the strongest bite of any animal on Earth, ever!
- Micropachycephalosaurus is the longest dinosaur name. Good luck saying that!
- Most dinosaurs had very small brains.



## GET LEARNING: ME & MY WORLD MEET THE DINOSAURS

Children often have an impressive knowledge of dinosaurs. Put that knowledge to the test with this activity.



Download and print the Dinosaur Names activity sheet, which contains 10 different types of dinosaur. Cut them up and stick them around your meeting space.

- 1 Read out the name of one of the dinosaurs and children should take a look around the room and stand by the picture of the dinosaur they think matches the name. Award a point for anyone who guesses correctly. Continue with the rest of the dinosaurs, until you've covered all 10.
- 2 Now we've met all the dinosaurs, read out some of the facts from the fact sheet (but don't give the name of the dinosaur the facts belong to). Children should now go and stand by the dinosaur they think the facts are describing. Again, award a point for anyone who guesses correctly.
- 3 Finish by asking the group which is their favourite dinosaur and why. You could also ask the group who can do good impressions (walking / roaring etc) of their favourite dinosaur.



## GET ACTIVE: PLAYING GAMES DINO DASH

- 1 Sit the group in a large circle. Give each child in the group a dinosaur name (i.e T-Rex, Raptor, Stegosaurus, Triceratops etc). There needs to be at least two of each dinosaur, with larger groups having 3 or 4 of each.
- 2 Place a dinosaur egg (ball / beanbag) in the middle of the circle.
- 3 Call out one of the dinosaur names. Anyone with that name must jump up, run clockwise around the outside of the circle, before entering the circle where they were originally sat and trying to pick up the egg first.
- 4 The first child to make it to the egg wins that round and scores a point. Continue playing, calling different dinosaur names and keeping a tally of points. The child with the most points at the end of the game wins.



GET CREATIVE



20 MINUTES



PREPARATION  
NEEDED

## GET CREATIVE: ARTY & CRAFTY DINOSAUR FOSSILS

Make your very own dinosaur fossils. The ingredients listed should make roughly 10 fossils (depending on size). Make the dough as a group or alternatively a leader could do steps 1-2 beforehand.

- 1 Combine the flour and salt into a bowl and form a well in the middle.
- 2 Gradually add the water, mixing as you go, until a dough is formed and shaped into a ball.
- 3 Roll out the dough onto a flat surface until about 1cm thick. Use a circle cookie cutter to create circles of dough for each child to work with. Where possible allow children to create 2 or 3 fossils.
- 4 Use the dinosaur toys to press into the dough to create a fossil. Smaller toys can be laid on their side to create a dinosaur shape. Larger toys can be used to create dinosaur footprints in the dough.
- 5 Once complete children can take the fossils home to dry. After a few days the dough should have hardened to create solid dinosaur fossils. Alternatively save them for your next session where they could then be painted and decorated.

### What you'll need:

- 500g Plain Flour
- 250g Salt
- 250ml Water
- Bowl
- Spoon
- Rolling Pin
- Circle Cookie Cutter
- Plastic Dinosaur Toys



GET ACTIVE



20 MINUTES



PREPARATION  
NEEDED

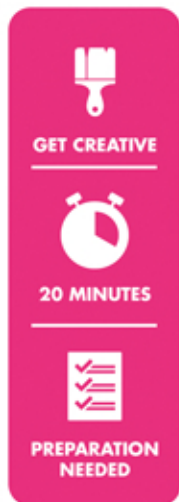
## GET ACTIVE: PLAYING GAMES DINO-TAIL DEMOLITION

Dinosaurs are known for their huge tails, but have you ever considered how hard it must be to walk around with one? Let's find out with one or both of the below activities. For each activity you'll need a dinosaur tail. This could be made from a pool noodle tied to a belt or a pair of tights filled with balloons and tied around the waist. The tail should be long enough to touch the floor. The group can share one tail between them as each activity is individually played.




**A Careful Dinosaur:** Set up a path (cones, tape etc) from one end of the room to the other. The path should only be a metre wide and have a number of turns and bends in it. Within the path place lots of obstacles that can easily be knocked over (bowling pins, water bottles). Split into two teams, with one person going at a time. The aim is to make it through the path without knocking over any of the obstacles. Children can't touch the tail with their hands. 5 points for completing the course but children should lose a point for any obstacles knocked down. You could set a time limit to add pressure.

**A Destructive Dinosaur:** Fill the room with obstacles (bottles, pins). One child at a time should have 30 seconds wearing the tail to run around the room trying to knock down as many objects as they can. Each object knocked down is worth a point. Let every child have a go, making sure to re-set the obstacles each time. The dinosaur or team with the most points at the end of the game is the winner.



## GET CREATIVE: ARTY & CRAFTY HATCHING DINOSAUR EGGS

- 1  Download and print the dinosaur characters from the activity sheet. Each child will need one cut out by a leader beforehand. Ideally these should be printed to / stuck onto card.
- 2 Colour in the dinosaur character.
- 3 Use colouring pens to design an eggshell pattern (i.e colourful dots) on the paper plate.
- 4 Cut the paper plate in half but with a zig zag line, to create a broken eggshell effect.
- 5 Use a split pin to attach one end of the eggshells together. This should mean the eggshell can now pivot open and closed.
- 6 Glue the bottom centimetre of the dinosaur character to the back of the bottom eggshell where the zig zag line is. When the eggshell is opened, the dinosaur should look like it is hatching from the egg.




## GET INTO THE BIBLE: DEVELOPING MY FAITH HOW I'D BEAT A T-REX...

The Tyrannosaurus was the king of the dinosaur world. They were the scariest and most dangerous dinosaurs around, making them one of the greatest predators that ever lived.

Start by sharing some of the facts about the T-Rex.

As a group try and think of really imaginative ways you would fight a T-Rex. This might include getting superheroes to help you, using a jet pack, using helicopters to tie it up in rope. Children have incredible imaginations, so encourage them to come up with the most original and impressive solutions for going into battle with a T-Rex. Have a competition for the best story.

Now ask the group if they can think of any stories in the Bible where someone small took on a big and scary opponent and won? The story we are looking for is David and Goliath. Re-cap the story to the group using a children's Bible or a YouTube Video.  **1 Samuel 17 v 20-50**

When David took on Goliath he didn't need a sword or a spear – he didn't even wear any armour. Instead, he had the strength of God to give him courage and that helped him to victory. David's story shows us that when things get tough, we can lean on God to be our strength.

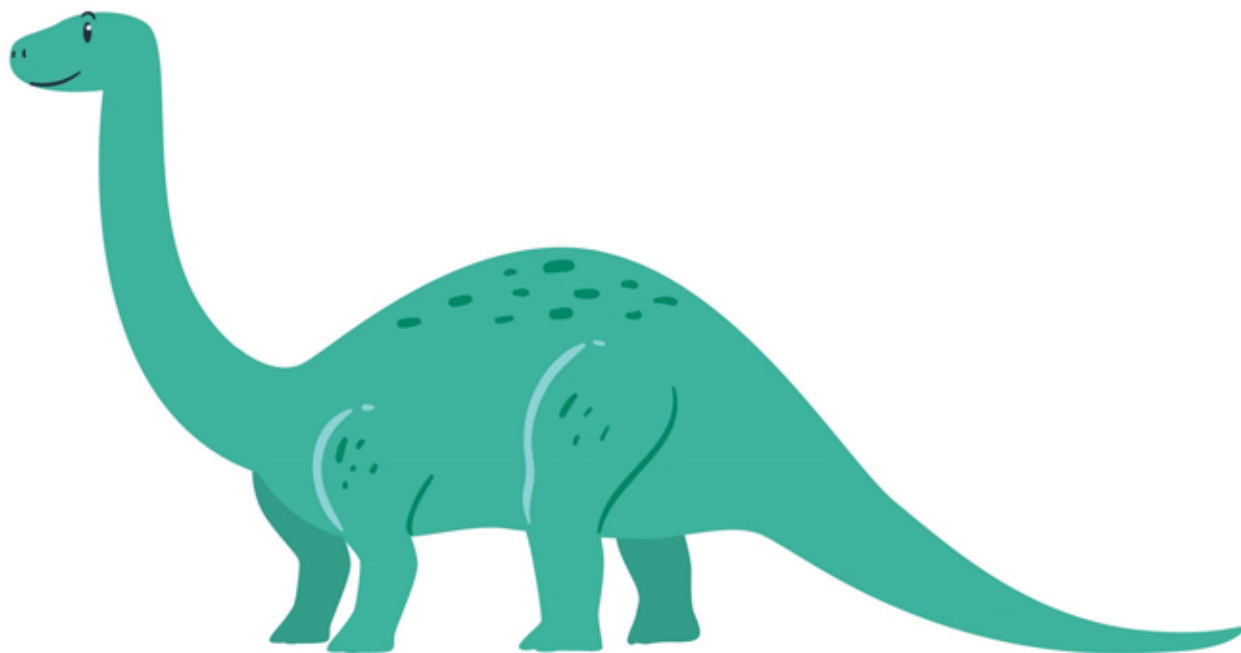
Whilst we thankfully won't have to go into battle against giants or T-Rex's, there will still be T-Rex sized problems that might try and ruin our day (bullies, bad days, illness). Thankfully we don't have to face these problems alone and inside our hearts is God who is always ready to go into battle with us. With God on our side, even the scariest T-Rex or the tallest giant can be overcome!



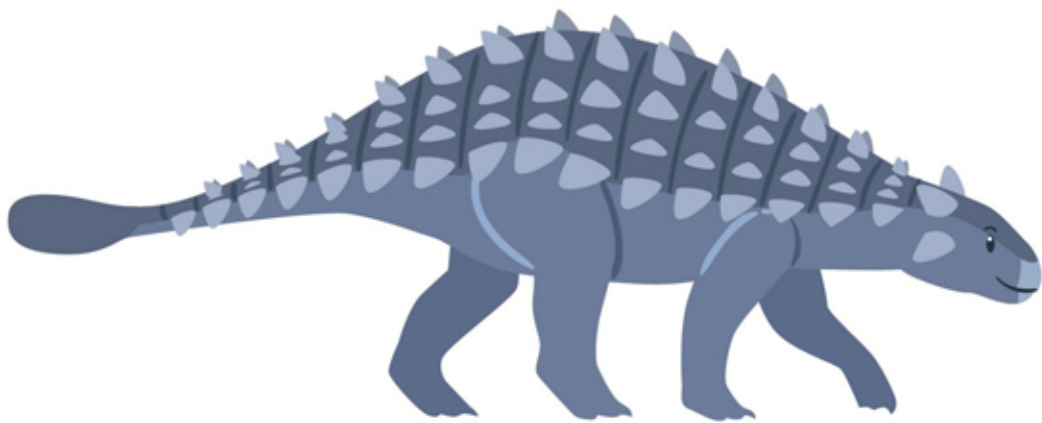
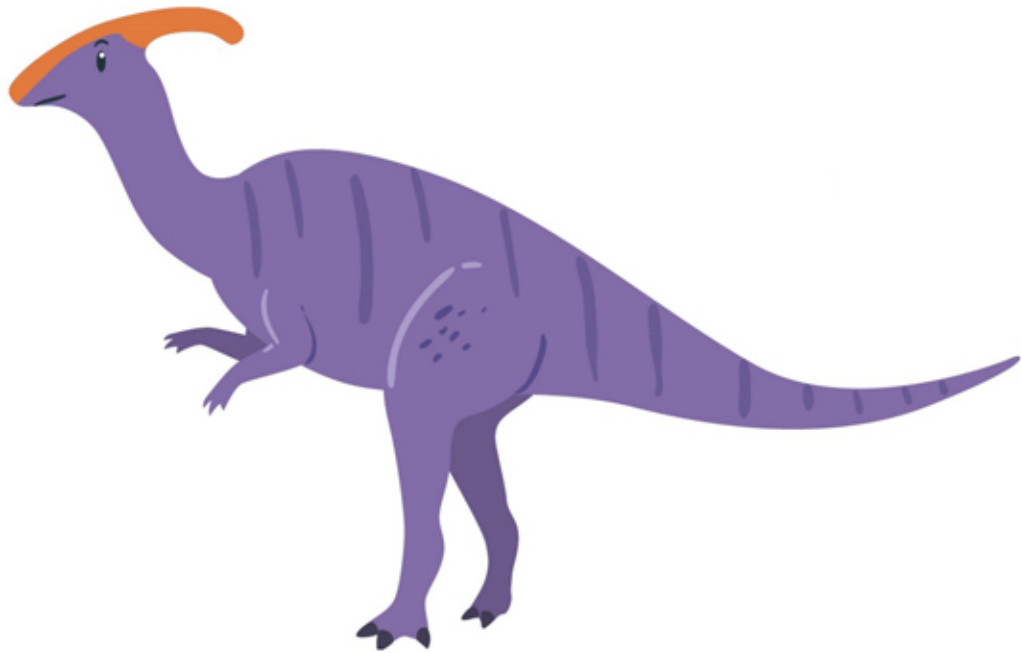
### DID YOU KNOW?

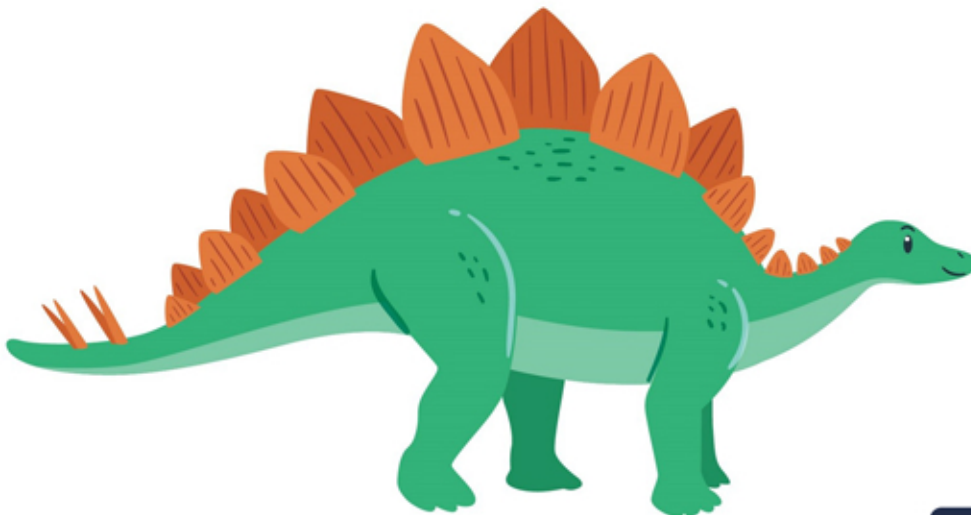
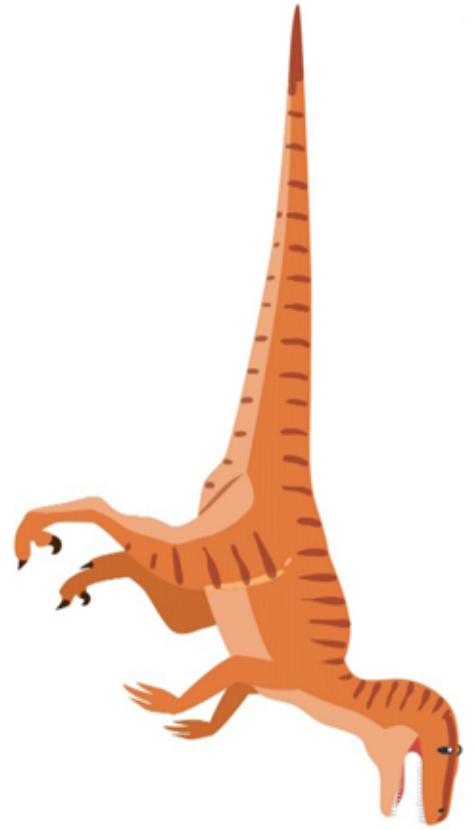
#### T-Rex Facts:

- As long as a bus (12m)
- As tall as a giraffe (6m)
- Speed of 20mph
- 20cm+ long sharp teeth
- Meat eater
- Weighed 5 tonnes









**Brontosaurus**

**Pteranodon**

**Triceratops**

**Tyrannosaurs (T-Rex)**

**Ankylosaurus**

**Velociraptor**

**Spinosaurus**

**Stegosaurus**

**Parasaurolophus**

**Allosaurus**

**ANSWERS**



Brontosaurus



Pteranodon



Allosaurus



Parasaurolophus



Ankylosaurus



Triceratops



Spinosaurus



Tyrannosaurus



Stegosaurus



Velociraptor



# DINOSAUR FACTS

## **Brontosaurus** (Bront-uh-saw-rus)

- Length: 22 metres
- Weight: 17 tonnes
- Life Span: 100 years
- Diet: Herbivore (Plants)
- Brontosaurus means: "Thunder lizard"

## **Pteranodon** (Ter-ran-o-don)

- Wingspan: 7+ metres
- Diet: Carnivore (Mainly Fish)
- Pteranodon means: "Toothless wing"
- Pteranodon had no teeth, but rather a sharp beak like some modern day birds

## **Triceratops** (Try-sair-uh-tops)

- Length: 8 - 10 metres
- Weight: Roughly 10 tonnes
- Diet: Herbivore (Plants)
- Triceratops means: "Three-horned Face"
- Triceratops had between 400 - 800 teeth

## **Tyrannosaurus Rex** (Tye-ran-uh-saw-rus)

- Length: 12+ metres
- Diet: Carnivore (Meat)
- Speed: 20 MPH +
- Tyrannosaurus means: "Tyrant lizard"
- 50-60 large teeth (roughly 20cm long)

## **Ankylosaurus** (Ang-kil-uh-saw-rus)

- Length: 6 - 8 metres
- Diet: Herbivore (Plants)
- Ankylosaurus means: "Fused lizard"
- The tail acted as a large club, which it could swing in defence to protect it from predators

## **Velociraptor** (Veh-loss-uh-rap-tor)

- Length: 2+ metres
- Speed: 40 MPH
- Diet: Carnivore (Meat)
- Velociraptor means: "Swift thief" because they grab their prey so quickly
- Commonly known as a raptor

## **Spinosaurus** (Spy-nuh-saw-rus)

- Length: 15 metres
- Diet: Carnivore (Meat)
- Spinosaurus means: "Spine Lizard"
- Believed to have roamed North Africa
- The largest carnivorous dinosaur

## **Stegosaurus** (Steg-uh-saw-rus)

- Length: 8+ metres
- Diet: Herbivore (Plants)
- Stegosaurus means: "Roof Lizard"
- Its brain was the size of a walnut
- The spikes on its back are roughly 1 metre tall

## **Parasaurolophus** (Par-ah-saw-rol-uh-fus)

- Length: 10 metres
- Diet: Herbivore (Plants)
- Parasaurolophus means: "Near Crested Lizard"
- Thought they could walk on four legs and also on two (depending on what they were doing)

## **Allosaurus** (Al-uh-saw-rus)

- Length: 8 metres
- Diet: Carnivore (Meat)
- Speed: 21 MPH
- Allosaurus means: "Different Lizard"
- Their jaws were double hinged, meaning they could open them extremely wide

