

DINOSAURS

READ THE TEXT AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS.
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2 Read and check your answers.



Types of dinosaur

There were more than 700 different types of dinosaur.

Some dinosaurs walked on two legs and others walked on four.

Some were very fast like the Velociraptor but some were slow like the Ankylosaurus.

Some were gigantic like the Brachiosaurus and some were small like the Compsognathus.

We know lots about how they lived but we don't know what colour they were.

Names

In 1842, a British scientist called Richard Owen invented the name *dinosaur* which means 'terrible lizard' in Greek.

Lots of dinosaurs were named using Greek words. For example:

- Velociraptor means 'fast robber'.
- Triceratops means 'three-horned head'.
- Oviraptor means 'egg-thief'.
- Microdontosaurus means 'tiny-toothed lizard'.
- Maiasaura means 'good mother lizard'.

People who study dinosaurs are called paleontologists; this means 'the study of ancient creatures'.

When and where did they live?

Dinosaurs lived all over the world on every continent.

They lived on Earth for about 200 million years before they disappeared.

They died out about 65 million years ago.

Why did they become extinct?

Nobody knows exactly why the dinosaurs became extinct. There are several theories about why this happened. Most people believe that a giant asteroid crashed into the Earth and caused catastrophic changes to the climate. It was probably very cold and the dinosaurs could not adapt to the new weather conditions.



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1) HOW MANY DIFFERENT TYPES OF DINOSAUR WERE THERE?

2) WHO INVENTED THE NAME "DINOSAUR"?

3) WHERE DID DINOSAURS LIVE?

4) WHEN DID DINOSAURS DIE?

5) WHAT COLOUR WERE DINOSAURS?