

## Dinosaurs

Dinosaurs are a group of \_\_\_\_\_ that lived between 230 and 65 million years ago during the \_\_\_\_\_ Era. This was a time when the land formed just one \_\_\_\_\_ which was hot, dry and desert like. However, earthquakes and \_\_\_\_\_ helped split the land into two. Eventually, \_\_\_\_\_ fell and rainfall increased, leading to the growth of more green, leafy plants. Then 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 skin to protect themselves.

Suddenly, some 65 million years ago, dinosaurs \_\_\_\_\_ completely, except for \_\_\_\_\_, 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 \_\_\_\_\_, changing conditions on \_\_\_\_\_.

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