



SOFT T-REX

In 2005, there was an unusual discovery found in Montana. Twenty-four different kinds of dinosaurs were uncovered in this one place. One kind was different than all of the others. Most dinosaurs that are discovered are just bones. This dinosaur still had soft tissue. It had cells and blood vessels. This was not known when the dinosaur was first discovered. A scientist discovered it when she examined it in the lab.

Before this discovery, scientists never thought that tissue in bones could survive more than 100,000 years. The scientists tested the bones. They found that they were 68 million years old. This was the oldest dinosaur ever discovered with tissue.

This type of tissue is found in bones of birds when they are ready to make eggshells. It contains calcium. It is found when birds are ready to lay eggs. The scientists realized they had found a female dinosaur. This dinosaur had laid eggs. The eggs from this dinosaur were very much like bird eggs today.



STORY QUESTIONS

1. An **antonym** for the word *unusual* would be . . .
 - a. regular.
 - b. strange.
 - c. odd.
 - d. bizarre.
2. Why was this dinosaur so important?
 - a. It had to be taken out with a helicopter.
 - b. It was the biggest dinosaur ever discovered.
 - c. It was the first dinosaur over 100,000 years old with soft tissue.
 - d. It was in the middle of a lot of other dinosaurs.
3. What did the bone have inside?
 - a. a bone that is long, thin, and yellow
 - b. a bone that cannot be broken
 - c. a material that has calcium inside
 - d. dinosaur babies
4. Why was this discovery so important?
 - a. It showed that this dinosaur laid eggs like our modern day birds.
 - b. It showed that this dinosaur laid eggs like our modern day crocodiles.
 - c. It showed that this dinosaur laid eggs like our modern day squirrels.
 - d. It showed that dinosaurs didn't lay eggs.