

# Asking about Existence in the Past

## 1. Read and complete the table:

There was    There wasn't    There were  
There weren't any    Was there    Were there any

### *There was / There were*

*There was* and *There were* describe things and places in the past we add "any" after the negative plural. We use "Was there" / "Were there any" to ask yes/no questions.

|                      | <i>Singular</i>                                          | <i>Plural</i>                                               |
|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Affirmative</i>   | (1) _____ an egg<br>in the nest.                         | (2) _____ eggs in<br>the nest.                              |
| <i>Negative</i>      | (3) _____ an egg.                                        | (4) _____ eggs.                                             |
| <i>Interrogative</i> | (5) _____ an egg?<br>Yes, there was. / No, there wasn't. | (6) _____ eggs?<br>Yes, there were. / No, there<br>weren't. |

## 2. Look, read and click on the right option.



- Was / Were** there a mother dinosaur near the nest?  
Yes, there **was / were**.
- Was / Were** there **any / some** birds in the nest?  
No, there **wasn't / weren't**.
- Was / Were** there any baby dinosaurs in the eggs?  
Yes, there **was / were**.

## 3. Look, read and complete the sentences with the correct words.

There was    There were    There weren't any    was

- I \_\_\_\_\_ alive in the Jurassic Period.
- \_\_\_\_\_ a volcano near my home.
- \_\_\_\_\_ a stegosaurus in my  
neighbourhood, too.
- But \_\_\_\_\_ bees or butterflies.

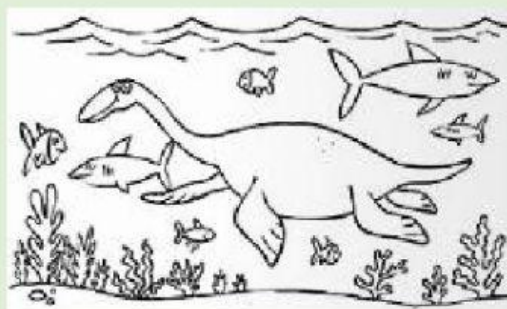


5. I \_\_\_\_\_ in the ocean millions  
of years ago!

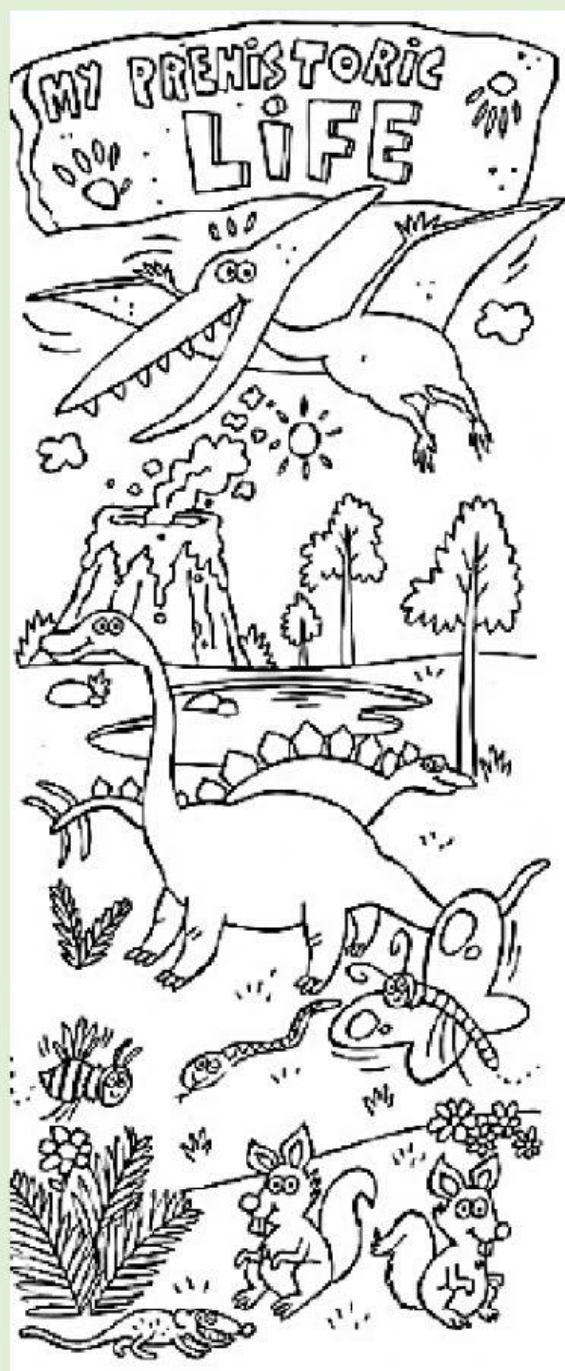
6. \_\_\_\_\_ a lot of sea plants in  
my neighbourhood.

7. But \_\_\_\_\_ whales.

8. \_\_\_\_\_ sharks! Watch out!



#### 4. Unscramble the questions



1. there / bees / any / Were

\_\_\_\_\_?

No, there \_\_\_\_\_.

2. any / reptiles / there / Were

\_\_\_\_\_?

Yes, there \_\_\_\_\_.

3. flowers / there / any / Were

\_\_\_\_\_?

No, there \_\_\_\_\_.

4. Were / there / ferns / any

\_\_\_\_\_?

Yes, there \_\_\_\_\_.

5. there / any / Were / trees

\_\_\_\_\_?

Yes, there \_\_\_\_\_.

6. mammals / any / there / Were

\_\_\_\_\_?

Yes, there \_\_\_\_\_.

7. there / Was / a volcano

\_\_\_\_\_?

Yes, there \_\_\_\_\_.

8. any / Were / dinosaurs / there

\_\_\_\_\_?

Yes, there \_\_\_\_\_.