



Name _____

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Dinosaur Provincial Park

Would you like to visit a park entirely dedicated to dinosaurs? Then you should go to Dinosaur Provincial Park. For dinosaur enthusiasts, it is the park to visit. It is in Alberta, Canada.

In 1884, a scientist went searching for coal and oil deposits. This was in the mostly unexplored lands of western Canada. He found a huge dinosaur skull along the Red Deer River. Scientists realized it was a new dinosaur. They called it the *Albertosaurus*. Why? It was found near the city of Alberta.

Explorers and scientists soon discovered that the area was a **treasure-trove** of dinosaur remains. A mixture of mud, sand, and minerals had perfectly preserved them. More than 150 complete dinosaur skeletons have

been found there. Thousands of individual bones have been uncovered, too.

In 1955, the Canadian government created Dinosaur Provincial Park. This was done to display many of the skeletons and protect the remaining bones. In some parts of the park, scientists still search for bones. Visitors are not allowed to search for bones and remove them.

The park has displays of many dinosaurs, including the *Styracosaurus*. Its name means “spiked lizard.” It was an eighteen-foot-long, six-foot-high horned species. It weighed 600 pounds. The *Albertosaurus* was thirty feet long and weighed 4,000 pounds. It walked on two legs.

Check Your Understanding

- From the context of the passage, what is the best meaning of **treasure-trove**?
 - hidden treasure
 - gold deposits
 - worthless junk
 - a dinosaur skull
- From your prior knowledge of dinosaurs and the context of the passage, which well-known dinosaur appears to be a close relative of the *Albertosaurus*?
 - Brontosaurus*
 - Tyrannosaurus rex*
 - Iguanodon*
 - Triceratops*
- Which word refers to a mixture of mud, sand, and minerals?
 - dinosaur
 - sediment
 - riverbed
 - specimen
- Where is Dinosaur Provincial Park located?
 - Mexico
 - the United States
 - Canada
 - California

