

Dinosaur World

The Land Before People

Dinosaurs once ruled Earth.

Dinosaurs roamed Earth millions of years ago. Some dinosaurs were as small as chickens. Others were larger than houses.

Dinosaur Food



John Eastcott & Yva Momatiuk/Photo Researchers, Inc.

Tyrannosaurus rex was one of the biggest meat-eating dinosaurs. It had tiny arms, with two small, sharp-clawed fingers on each arm.

Scientists often group dinosaurs by the food they ate. Most dinosaurs ate plants. Those dinosaurs are called **herbivores**. They had flat teeth.



Kim Taylor/Warren Photographic/Photo Researchers, Inc.

Apatosaurus was a large plant-eating dinosaur. It used to be called *Brontosaurus*. It had a very long neck. Its tail was even longer.

Some dinosaurs ate meat. Those dinosaurs are called **carnivores**. Carnivores had sharp teeth.

Digging for Fossils



Richard T. Nowitz/Corbis

Scientists dig for dinosaur fossils.

Dinosaurs died out 65 million years ago. No people were alive during that time. Then how do we know so much about dinosaurs? People have found dinosaur **fossils** in the ground. Fossils are remains of plants and animals that lived long ago.



Zuma/Newscom

A scientist examines a fossil
in a lab.

Hundreds of different types of dinosaurs have been found. Experts say that there are many more yet to be discovered.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Answer the following four questions based on the information in the passage.

1. When did dinosaurs die out?

2. What kind of teeth did dinosaurs that were herbivores have?

3. What kind of dinosaur would be most dangerous to a human if they were still alive today? Why? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

4. What is the main idea of the passage? Be sure to provide at least two details from the passage that support the main idea.

Directions: Please read the sentence below and then write the word or phrase that best answers the questions. The first answer has been provided for you.

Scientists are able to discover a lot when they study dinosaurs by looking closely at fossils.

Who? scientists

5. (are) What?

6. When?

7. How?

8. The question below is an incomplete sentence. Choose the word that best completes the sentence.

Herbivores eat plants, _____ carnivores eat meat.

- A but
- B because
- C so

Directions: Read the vocabulary word and definition below. Then answer questions 9 and 10.

Vocabulary Word: **discover** (dis · cov · er): to find or become aware of something.

9. Read the sentences below and underline all forms of the word **discover**.
- a. Some people say that Columbus discovered America, but others disagree.
 - b. Archaeologists dig in different places to try to discover new fossils.
 - c. When the boy was digging in his sandbox, he was surprised to discover that there was a coin under the sand.
 - d. It is not easy to discover new things.
 - e. The doctor discovered the cause of the woman's headaches.
10. Which person below seems more likely to discover something new?

