

A GIGANTIC ADVENTURE



DINOSAURS Alive!

www.dinosalive.com

THE TIME OF DINOSAURS

The Earth formed over 4.5 billion years ago, and it has been changing ever since. Continents have come together and spread apart at least four times. Mountains have risen and slowly weathered away. Oceans flooded and dried up. Take a look at what the Earth was like.

Triassic Period

A single landmass called Pangaea was centered on the equator. It contained all of the world's continents at the dawn of the Age of Dinosaurs. The interior of this supercontinent was dry and desert-like. The polar regions were warmer and more tropical. Crocodylian relatives dominated their dinosaur cousins.



Effigia
It may look like a dinosaur, but this lightly-built, nine-foot long creature is more closely related to crocodiles.



Coelophysis
This speedy and agile predator may have hunted in packs. It's the earliest carnivorous dinosaur we know of.



Redondasaurus
This 20-ft long crocodylian relative looks just like a modern crocodile, but its nose is on top of its head instead of at the end of its snout.

Jurassic Period

Pangaea began to break up into two landmasses, separated by a widening ocean. The climate of different regions began to diversify. After the extinction of many crocodylian relatives at the end of the Triassic, dinosaur species became diverse and many grew to unprecedented size. Among them are the long-necked, plant-eating sauropods.



Seismosaurus
At over 110 feet long and weighing over 30 tons, this "earth-shaking lizard" was almost invulnerable, even to large carnivores.



Pterosaurs
These flying reptiles are not dinosaurs. Pterosaurs did not have feathers, but some were covered with thin fibers sometimes described as "fuzz."

Cretaceous Period

As the continents drifted further apart, each landmass carried a cargo of diversifying dinosaurs. Shallow inland seas slowly began to dry up and retreat into ocean basins. Climate became more extreme with hotter summers and colder winters. Dinosaurs still dominated the land, and this was the time of *Tyrannosaurus rex*.



Oviraptor
Once thought of as an egg stealer, this dinosaur was actually a nurturing parent that may have continued to care for its hatchlings.



Protoceratops
No larger than a sheep, this plant-eating dinosaur may have used its bony neck frill to defend against predators or to attract mates.



Tarbosaurus
A longer, equally powerful cousin of *T. rex*. Its teeth were curved, razor-sharp, and nearly six inches long.

Today

Earth continues to change and dinosaurs are living among us! Birds are descendants of small carnivorous dinosaurs that survived a mass extinction at the end of the Cretaceous. There are over 10,000 species of birds alive today.



Ostrich
With a long neck and legs, this flightless bird can run up to 65 km/h (40 mph).



Red-tailed Hawk
This predator hunts using its excellent eyesight which is eight times as powerful as a human's!

TRIASSIC PERIOD (250-200 million years ago)

JURASSIC PERIOD (200-145 million years ago)

CRETACEOUS PERIOD (145-65 million years ago)

TODAY