



This Little Dinosaur

Grade Level: PreK - K

Time: 30 minutes

Program objectives:

- Students will be able to describe some of the characteristics of dinosaurs including size and diet.
- Students will explore how dinosaur teeth and claws helped them to take in the food they ate.
- Students will participate in an activity that estimates and compares the size of a brachiosaurus bone to one of their own.
- Students will understand that dinosaurs are extinct and that scientists learn about them by studying fossil remains.

Program description:

Discover a story that is 65 million years in the making. This interactive tale of exploration and discovery includes dinosaur fossils, footprints and other evidence to help finish the story.

Major vocabulary and concepts:

Carnivore
Fossil

Dinosaur
Herbivore

Extinct
Paleontologist

Suggested pre-visit activities:

- Read stories about dinosaurs and add dinosaur books to your reading corner. Listen or sing songs about dinosaurs.
- Measure outside on the playground the sizes of several different popular dinosaurs.
- Have students sort and categorize different everyday objects so that they are able to recognize similarities and differences between items.
- Have students look at different animal teeth and discuss the difference between herbivores and carnivores.
- Use a map or a globe and show students where they live and different places around the world where dinosaurs are found. (States west of the Mississippi and east of the Rocky Mountains with some exceptions like Missouri and Arkansas; Alberta, Canada; Mongolia in China; the south east part of England; South Africa; northern Africa; South America –Argentina, etc.)



Suggested post-visit activities:

- Have the students become paleontologists in the classroom. Have them dig in the sandboxes for bones and draw pictures of their discoveries.
- Have a group discussion about dinosaurs when you return to school. Ask each child what their favorite dinosaur is and why.
- Visit the Museum of Natural History & Science's *Dino Hall* and play "I, spy" to reinforce observations made during the Learning Lab.
- Have students observe and note the differences in size, color, teeth and claws of several types of dinosaurs. Make a list of similarities and differences relating to some of the dinosaurs.

Academic Standards:

Ohio Revised Academic Standards:

- Physical Science – PreK
- Life Science – PreK and K

Related exhibits and features:

- *Dino hall* exhibit in the Museum of Natural History & Science

Resources:

- The Magic School Bus in the Time of Dinosaurs – Joanna Cole
- Aiki books
- Inside Dinosaurs and Other Prehistoric Creatures – Ted Dewan
- The Visual Dictionary of Dinosaurs – An eye witness Visual Dictionary
- Jack Horner, Living with Dinosaurs – Don Lessum (Science Superstars series from Books for Young Readers)
- The Dinosaur Alphabet book – Jerry Pallotta
- Dinosaur Encore – Patricia Mullins
- Eyewitness Books on Dinosaurs
- Dinosaurs – Gail Gibbon
- The Illustrated Encyclopedia of Dinosaurs, by David Norman
- <http://dsc.discovery.com/dinosaurs/>
- <http://education.nationalgeographic.com/education/topics/dinosaurs/>
- <http://www.paleoportal.org/>

