

# Dinosaurs - Giants of the Past

Reading Worksheet — Level C |  
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Dinosaurs lived on Earth millions of years ago. The word "dinosaur" means "**terrible** lizard."

Some dinosaurs were very big, and some were small. They lived for about 165 million years before they **disappeared**.

There were many **types** of dinosaurs. The T-Rex was a scary meat-eater with big teeth. The Brachiosaurus was **huge** and ate plants. The Velociraptor was small but very fast.

We know about dinosaurs from **fossils**. Fossils are old bones and footprints in rocks. Scientists called **paleontologists** study these fossils. They learn how dinosaurs lived and what they ate.

About 66 million years ago, all dinosaurs died. Scientists think a big **asteroid** hit the Earth. The sky became dark and cold. Plants died, and dinosaurs could not find food.

But not all dinosaurs are gone! Birds are **related** to dinosaurs. When you see a bird, you are seeing a type of dinosaur. Museums have dinosaur **skeletons** that you can visit. Dinosaurs still amaze us today!

## A. Vocabulary

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|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. terrible _____        | a. all the bones of a body          |
| 2. disappeared _____     | b. went away; can no longer be seen |
| 3. types _____           | c. very very big                    |
| 4. huge _____            | d. to surprise and impress          |
| 5. fossils _____         | e. a big rock from space            |
| 6. paleontologists _____ | f. scientists who study dinosaurs   |
| 7. asteroid _____        | g. very scary or frightening        |
| 8. related _____         | h. old bones or prints in rocks     |
| 9. skeletons _____       | i. different kinds                  |
| 10. amaze _____          | j. connected or in the same family  |

## B. True or False

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1. Dinosaurs lived thousands of years ago. \_\_\_\_
2. The word dinosaur means terrible lizard. \_\_\_\_
3. All dinosaurs were very big. \_\_\_\_
4. T-Rex ate plants. \_\_\_\_
5. Fossils help us learn about dinosaurs. \_\_\_\_
6. Birds are related to dinosaurs. \_\_\_\_
7. An asteroid hit Earth 66 million years ago. \_\_\_\_
8. Paleontologists are doctors. \_\_\_\_
9. You can see dinosaur skeletons in museums. \_\_\_\_

## C. Fill in the Blanks

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**Word Bank:** terrible, types, huge, fossils, asteroid, related, skeletons

1. The word dinosaur means \_\_\_\_\_ lizard.
2. There were many \_\_\_\_\_ of dinosaurs.
3. The Brachiosaurus was \_\_\_\_\_ and ate plants.
4. We learn about dinosaurs from \_\_\_\_\_ in rocks.
5. Birds are \_\_\_\_\_ to dinosaurs.

## D. Comprehension Questions

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1. How long did dinosaurs live on Earth?
2. What does the word dinosaur mean?
3. What is a paleontologist?
4. How did the dinosaurs die?
5. How are dinosaurs still alive today?

## E. Discussion Questions

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1. Which dinosaur would you like to see? Why?
2. Have you been to a museum with dinosaur bones?
3. Why do you think people love dinosaurs?

# Answer Key

*Dinosaurs - Giants of the Past — Teacher Reference Only*

**A. Vocabulary:** 1-h, 2-c, 3-i, 4-j, 5-a, 6-f, 7-g, 8-b, 9-d, 10-e

**B. True/False:** 1-F, 2-T, 3-F, 4-F, 5-T, 6-T, 7-T, 8-F, 9-T

**C. Fill Blanks:** 1-terrible, 2-types, 3-huge, 4-fossils, 5-related

**D. Comprehension:**

1. About 165 million years
2. Terrible lizard
3. A scientist who studies dinosaurs
4. An asteroid hit Earth, making it dark and cold
5. Birds are related to dinosaurs