

Year 1 Topic

Dinosaur Planet



Stomp, crash, roar! Watch out – there are dinosaurs about! Yes, that’s right, we’re travelling back in time to the age of the dinosaurs.

In this learning project, we’ll visit a museum, look closely at ancient fossils and study reptiles to understand how dinosaurs may have lived and eventually died out. We’ll learn about the great fossil hunter, Mary Anning, and follow in her footsteps, studying dinosaur teeth and bones to find out what dinosaurs liked to eat. Learning dinosaur names, creating puzzling riddles, writing fantastic fact files and creating exciting dinosaur stories are some of the other activities we’ll be involved in this half term. We’ll also use our artistic skills to make model dinosaurs and to design dinosaur landscapes.

At the end of our project, we’ll invite you to a dinosaur party to share our knowledge with you. We’ll invent some dinosaur games to play with us.

Help your child prepare for their project

Dinosaurs are fascinating! Why not visit the library, choose some dinosaur books and practise reading and writing dinosaur names together? Alternatively, research amazing dinosaur facts together online. You could also make a mini-Jurassic Park from cardboard boxes and craft materials to make model dinosaurs feel at home!

What will you choose to do?

- Work with grown ups at home to research more amazing facts about the age of the dinosaurs.
- Visit a tropical animal centre or shop to have a closer look at some modern day reptiles. Take some photographs to show your class.
- Take Dino the dinosaur home for a night and write in his diary about what he got up to!
- Find non-fiction books at home (or in the local library) about dinosaurs. Bring them to school to share.
- Hunt for ferns, yew trees, monkey puzzle trees and other prehistoric plants while you're out and about. You might even find ornamental ferns in the houses of your family and friends.
- Create a dinosaur mask or hat and bring it to school for a dinosaur parade!
- Watch the birds in your garden or local park. Look at them closely with binoculars. Do you think they walk like dinosaurs?
- Work with an adult to produce a dinosaur movie or show using toys, puppets or models. Evergreen bushes and a rocky or dusty area of your garden or local park would make perfect film sets!
- Share stories and poems about dinosaurs with your grown ups. Take on the role of storyteller for any younger members of your family.
- Entertain your family and friends by reading them some side-splitting dinosaur jokes or astounding dinosaur facts.
- Take part in a dinosaur reading challenge. Every time you read a book at home, you'll earn a piece of a cut-up dinosaur picture. Stick them within a dinosaur outline and see how long it takes you to make the whole picture!

