

Acrocanthosaurus (ak-row-Kan-tho-SORE-us)



☺ Millions of years ago, animals we call **dinosaurs** lived all over the world. These **dinosaurs** are now *extinct*, but you can still see them in movies, books, and even in museums.

In Greek, the word “**dinosaur**” means “terrible **lizard**.” But in fact, **dinosaurs** were neither terrible nor lizards.

Chameleon—a lizard



Gargyleosaurus (gar-GOYL-e-o-SAWR-us)—a dinosaur



☺ **Lizards** stand with their legs to the side of their bodies. **Dinosaurs** stood with their legs under their bodies.

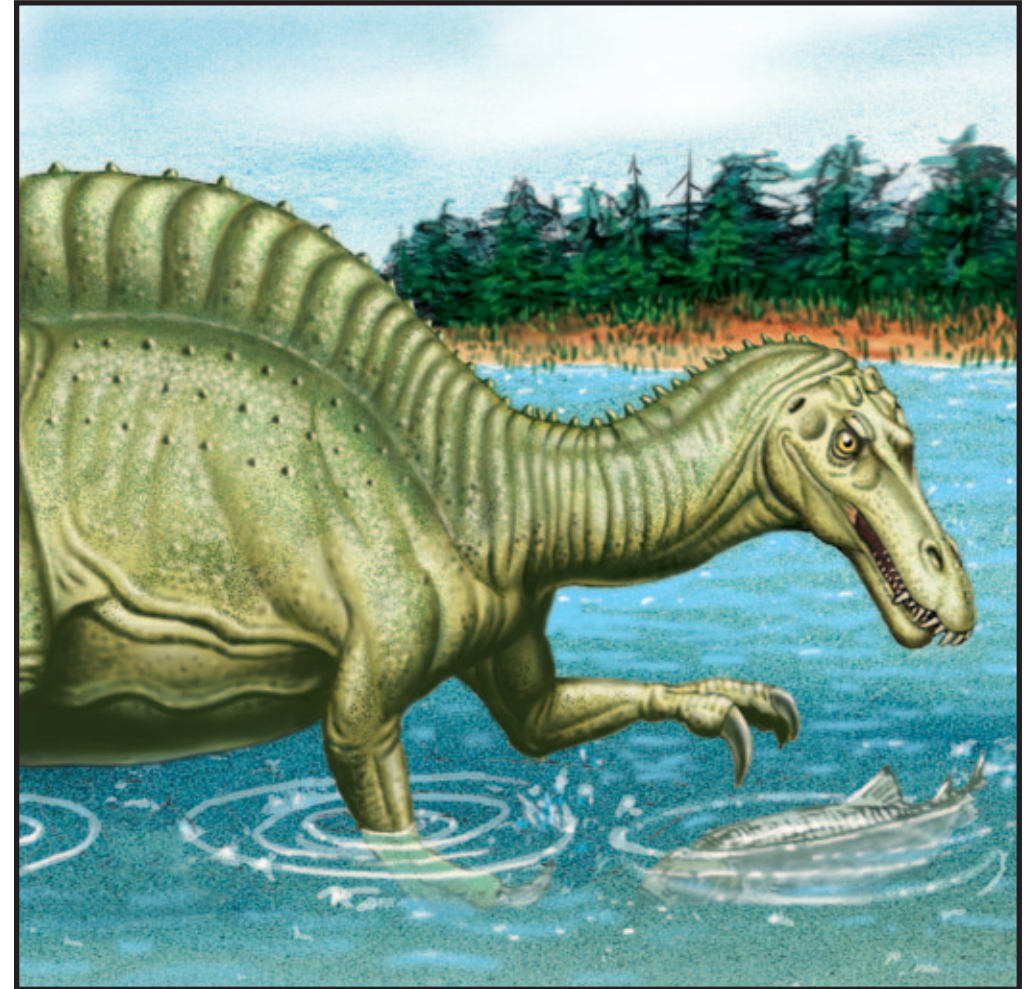
Paleontologist with duck-billed dinosaur jaw



☺ The scientists who study dinosaurs are called *paleontologists* (PAY-lee-on-TOL-a-jists).

By studying fossil bones, paleontologists have identified over 300 different kinds of dinosaurs. But most believe that there may be at least twice that many dinosaurs that have not yet been discovered.

SUCHOMIMUS (sook-oh-MIEM-us) Discovered in 1998



☺ Bones of this dinosaur were discovered just a few years ago. It lived 110 million years ago.

Kritosaurus (KRIT-o-SORE-us) Family



- ☉ Paleontologists agree that dinosaurs were reptiles. They lived on land, breathed air, and did not fly. Like modern birds, dinosaurs hatched from eggs.

The largest dinosaur eggs that have been found are about the size of a football. That's a lot bigger than a chicken egg!

Plateosaurus (PLAT-ee-oh-SORE-us)



- ☉ Some dinosaurs walked on two legs. Some walked on four legs. Some could do both.

Carnivores—Tyrannosaurus rex (tie-RAN-oh-SORE-us rex) and Dromaeosaurus (DROH-may-oh-SORE-us) Herbivores—Styracosaurus (Stie-rak-a-SORE-us) and Alamosaurus (Al-a-mo-SORE-us)



- 🗨️ Dinosaurs like Tyrannosaurus rex (tie-RAN-oh-SORE-us rex) and Dromaeosaurus (DROH-may-oh-SORE-us) ate only meat. They were *carnivores*.

Most carnivores are **predators**. That means they hunt other animals, called *prey*. Some carnivores are *scavengers*. That means they eat meat that they did not kill themselves.

Tarbosaurus (TAHR-bo-SORE-us) and Therizinosaurus (Ther-i-Zin-oh-SORE-us)



- 🗨️ Being a **predator** was not easy. You often had to fight sharp horns and long claws. If you were hurt and could not hunt, you would die.