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Which Dinosaur Was the Biggest?



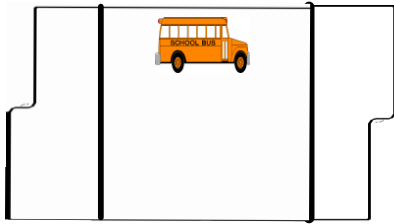
The Brachiosaurus was the largest complete dinosaur to be discovered. It was as long as the length of two large school buses and as tall as a four-story building.

Which Dinosaur was the Smallest?

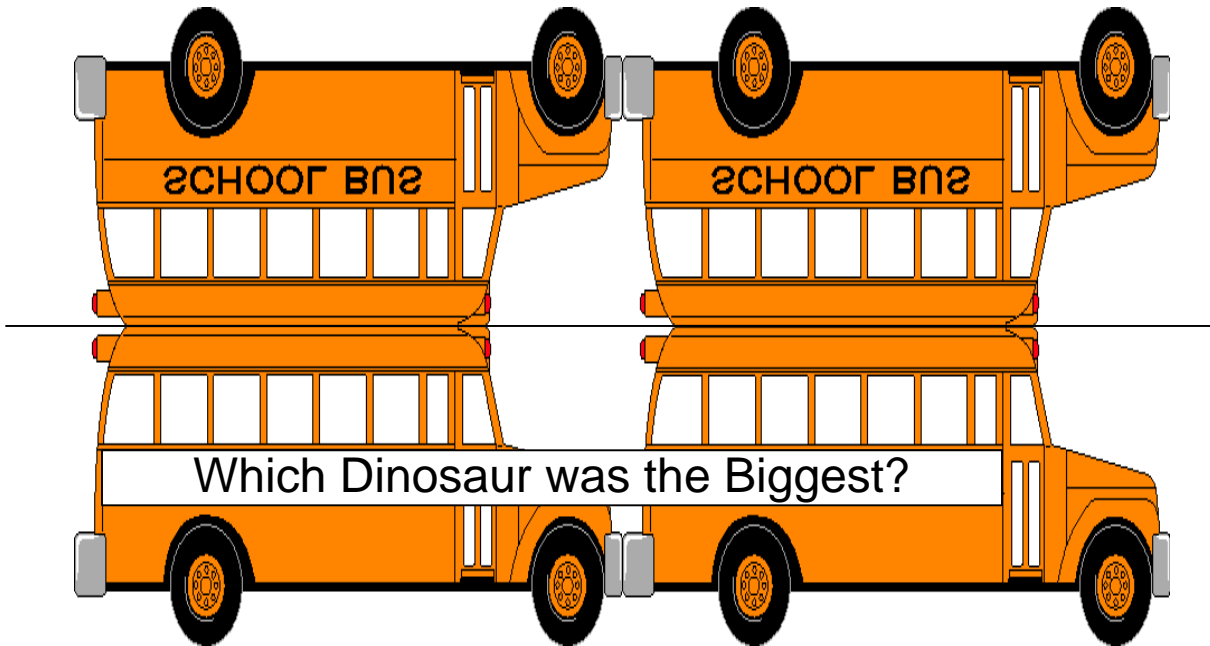
The smallest dinosaurs that had been discovered were just a little larger than a chicken. The *Compsognathus* dinosaur was around 3 feet tall and weighed about 6 pounds.



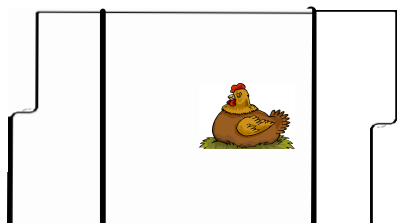
Folder 1



Hamburger fold on the middle line. Cut out around the shape of the two buses. Glue into lapbook with title showing. Inside, write the name of the biggest dinosaur.



Folder 1

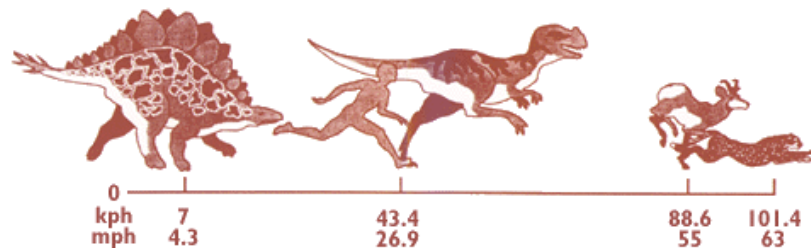


Hamburger fold on the middle line. Cut out around the shape of the chicken. Glue into lapbook with title showing. Inside, write the name of the smallest dinosaur.



What was the Speed of Dinosaurs?

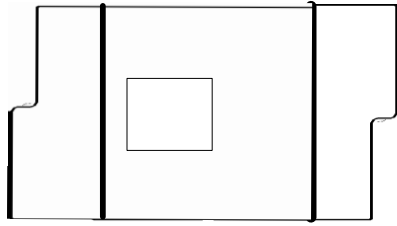
Estimates of dinosaur speeds vary because several different methods are used to calculate them. One recent study suggested that an average person might have been able to outrun an adult *Tyrannosaurus* (although you probably would not volunteer to try). The two basic approaches for estimating dinosaur speed are comparing to recorded speeds of modern animals of similar body size and build, and measuring distances between fossil footprints in a track way and using these distances to calculate estimated speed. Walking-speed estimates for medium-sized two-legged dinosaurs was around 4 miles per hour and peak running-speed estimates at 25 miles per hour.



How Long Could a Dinosaur Live?

Animal life spans relate in part to their body size and in part to their type of metabolism. Dinosaur life spans probably varied in length from tens of years to hundreds of years. Their possible maximum age can be estimated from the maximum life spans of modern reptiles, such as the 66-year lifespan of the common alligator and the impressive lifespan of a Black Seychelles Tortoise. These estimates, based on life spans of cold-blooded animals, would be too long if dinosaurs had metabolisms more similar to modern birds and mammals.

Folder 1



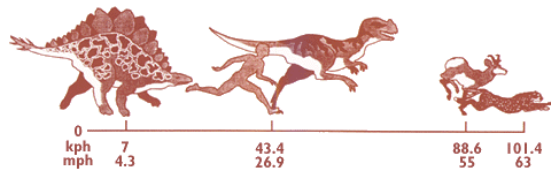
Cut out as one booklet. Fold over flap and then fold the other down so that title is on front. Cut out the labels and glue them onto blank spaces. Glue booklet into lapbook. Write in answers to your topics.

One approach to estimating speed

Another approach for estimating speed

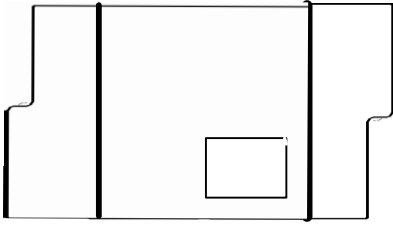
Estimated walking speed

Estimated running speed



The Speed of Dinosaurs

Folder 1



Hamburger fold on the middle line. Cut out around the shape of the file folder. Glue into lapbook with title showing. Inside, write the answer to the question.

What 2 things determined
how long a dinosaur could
live?

Sauropods Four Legged Plant Eaters



Called the biggest dinosaurs to live on land, Othniel Charles Marsh is credited with finding the first fossils of these giant creatures. Marsh named them sauropods which means “Lizard-Feet.”

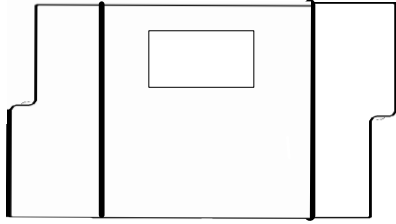
Being tall had its advantages. Because sauropods had long necks, they could reach up high in the trees for food. They ate from the trees because they were herbivores. An herbivore is a plant eater.

Being big was an definitely an advantage for these particular dinosaurs. Their size helped them defend themselves against the faster running meat-eating dinosaurs. The sauropods could use their strike out with their big feet and strong tail to inflict serious wounds on their attacker. The sauropods ranged in size from 7 feet long to over 100 feet (30 m) long.

Sauropods walked on all four legs. Their legs were thick and very strong. They also had a long tail for counter-balancing their long neck and their head was very small with a very small brain! Their teeth were very blunt, which is very characteristics of plant eating animals.

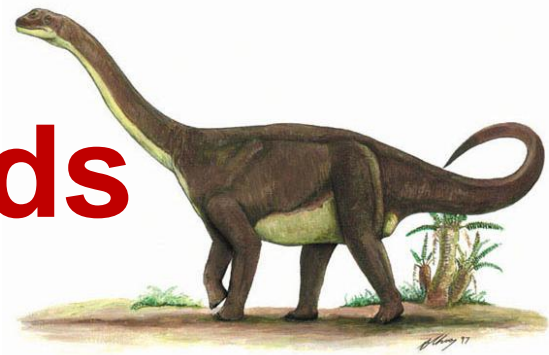
The best known sauropod is the Brachiosaurus.

Folder 2



Cut out these 2 pieces and the 2 pieces from the next page. Stack in order of height (shortest to longest) with title on top. (Text on each piece should show at the bottom). Staple together at the top and glue into lapbook. Write about the topics or questions listed on each piece.

Sauropods



Describe sauropods

Why was being tall an advantage?

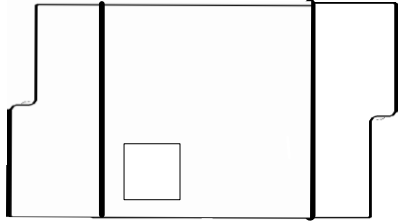
Why was being big an advantage?

What Happened to the Dinosaurs?

Dinosaurs are now extinct yet at one time they were very plentiful here on earth. There are no clear reasons as to exactly what happened to cause them to die out. We only have theories, or guesses.

One theory is that the Ice Age limited their food supply. When food is scarce and the weather isn't warm, reptiles do not thrive well and many die. Those who did survive the Ice Age were probably hunted to extinction either for protection or for food. This often happens to creatures that are not liked or want to be used by man.

Folder 3



Cut out as one piece. Tri-fold so that the title is on the front. Inside, write what happened to dinosaurs.

fold

fold

**What
Happened to
the
Dinosaurs?**