



Discovering Dinosaurs

Key Stage 1

Length of Session:

90 minutes: 45 min object handling session followed by 45 minute self-guided trail in the Museum.

Maximum group size:

32 children plus 4 members of staff.

Session outline

- We role-play fossilisation and discover how fossils are formed.
- Children will handle real dinosaur fossils; from teeth and bones to footprints and fossilised poo.
- Learn what they can tell us about the world of the dinosaurs.
- See the first fossil of the first dinosaur ever discovered and called a 'dinosaur'.
- Explore our dinosaur exhibits and seeing just how big a T-rex really was!



National Curriculum Areas:

Science: Animals; Rocks; Identification and Classification; Observing change over time.



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Suggestions for pre-visit activities

- Make a list of all the dinosaurs your class can name.
- Visit our 'Fossils' page on the learning zone at... <http://www.oum.ox.ac.uk/thezone/fossils/index.htm>
- ...and investigate the age of the rocks under your schools with our interactive map.
- Discuss what the children already know about dinosaurs, when and where they lived, what they looked like and what they ate.
- Read dinosaur poems and stories.

Suggestions for post-visit activities

- Create your own 'Jurassic Park' wall freeze or 3D diorama display with as many different dinosaurs as you can with information about their characteristics, the time they lived in and labels showing where their fossils were found.
- Make your own fossil dinosaur bones from modroc and cardboard.
- Explore the fossils found in other Geological periods both before and after the dinosaurs to see how life on the planet has changed by visiting the learning zone at...<http://www.oum.ox.ac.uk/thezone/fossils/history/scale.htm>

Learning Outcomes

- Knowledge and understanding of how fossils are formed and change over time.
- An appreciation that dinosaurs were living things that lived within their environments much as animals do today.
- An understanding of how scientists interpret fossils to find out about pre-history.
- Improved observational and analytical skills and use of scientific language.
- Awareness of the huge variety of prehistoric life and how it is classified.



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For further details and to book your visit, contact:

education@oum.ox.ac.uk