

it looks like a pizza. Using their fingers, students can mold the clay to look like a footprint of one of the four featured dinosaurs: Apatosaurus, Stegosaurus, Triceratops or Tyrannosaurus Rex. Remind them to use the pictures to model their footprints. When finished, allow the clay to dry. Students can write the name of the dinosaur on an index card and display it next to their fossil.

#### Science

**Compare and contrast herbivores and carnivores.**

Suggested time frame: 20 minutes.

Just by the looks of dinosaurs, your students will probably have a hard time telling if they are herbivores (plant eaters) or carnivores (meat eaters). Talk about the different kinds of body shapes, teeth, claws and arms/legs that the four featured dinosaurs have, and that the Apatosaurus, Stegosaurus and Triceratops were herbivores and the T-Rex was a voracious predator and carnivore.

#### Math

**Compare the length of dinosaurs.**

Suggested time frame: 35 minutes.

You will need different colored yarn, rulers, scissors, drawing paper, markers and reference materials. On the board, write the names of four featured dinosaurs: Apatosaurus, Stegosaurus, Triceratops and T-Rex. Have the class guess how long they think each dinosaur was. Approx. measurements are: 75 ft. (Apatosaurus), 30 ft. (Stegosaurus), 30 ft. (Triceratops) and 50 ft. (T-Rex). Have students divide into groups so each group has one dinosaur length. Give each group a different color of yarn, a ruler, a pair of scissors, a piece of drawing paper and markers. Have them measure the yarn using the ruler to be the same length as their dinosaur. On the paper, students can then write the name and draw a picture of the dinosaur. Display all the groups' yarn down the school hallway. Discuss the longest and shortest dinosaur. As an extension activity, the students can figure out their dinosaur's length in inches and yards.

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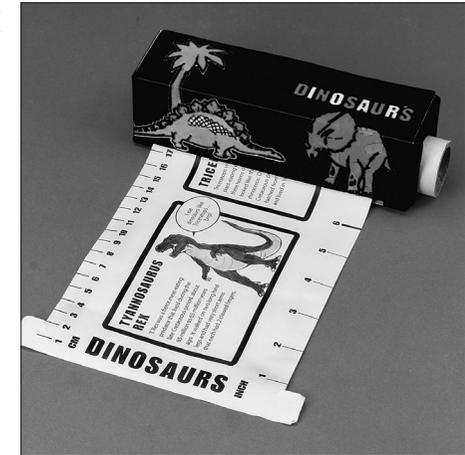
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**GP-1917**

*Project Ideas • Cross Curricular Links • Activity Sheets*

## Measure 'N Learn™ Dinosaurs

PACKAGE OF 12



Please read all directions before starting.

#### Your package contains:

- Boxes
- Markers
- Tape Measures
- Tablecloth

#### Additional Materials You will Need:

- Magazines for pictures (optional)

**Instructions:** Enjoy learning about different dinosaurs while coloring the tape measure with the markers included. The easiest way to color the box is when it's laid flat on a table.

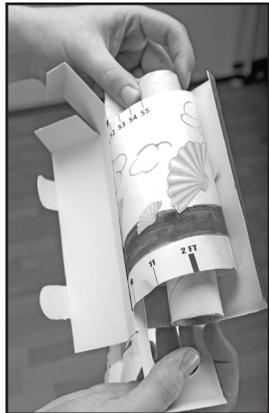
**Teaching Activities Inside**

Once you've finished coloring, bend each section of the box at the score line. Make sure the rounded flap at the end is folded down to the inside of the box. Insert the paper end into the slot of the box (see Photo A). Wrap the end of the paper around the roll and remove the self adhesive tape to secure the end to the roll. Making sure that the end of the paper is taped onto the roll straight and so that it is closer to the left end than the right end. With the roll inside the box (see Photo B), fold up the box and insert the tabs of the long edge first to secure. Then close both ends. One end will have the roll sticking out, so that you can unroll the paper and re-roll the paper back up.

Photo A



Photo B



### Dinosaur Activity Guide

Kids never cease to be endlessly fascinated with dinosaurs. These sometimes peaceful, sometimes fierce creatures ruled the earth for hundred of millions of years. The stories of dinosaurs appeal to the natural curiosity of students, opening young minds

to scientific exploration and stirring their imaginations.

### Arts & Crafts

#### Make dinosaur feet.

Suggested time frame: 30 minutes.

You will need shoebox size boxes, paint, fun foam, glue, scissors, newspaper and duct tape.

Cut a small hole in one end of each box just big enough for a child's foot to fit in. Have students tape the box closed with strong tape and stuff the inside front and sides of the box with newspaper, leaving just enough room for their feet to fit inside. Students can then paint the boxes a dinosaur color and let dry. To create claws, have them cut out 2" triangles from fun foam and glue them to the front top of the box.

#### Make dinosaur terrariums.

Split the class into groups and supply each with a fish bowl, gravel or small pebbles, sand, potting soil, a spoon, houseplants, aquarium rocks, plastic dinosaurs and plastic wrap.

It's easy to make a prehistoric forest in your classroom. First have students place a layer of gravel or pebbles in the bottom of the fish bowl. Then they can add a layer of sand. Have them spread a 2"-3" layer of potting soil over the sand. They can use a spoon to dig shallow holes for the plants. Help them place the plants in the holes to create a miniature forest scene. To finish the scene, have them sprinkle some aquarium rocks over the soil and add little plastic dinosaurs to roam through your rain forest. Go around with a watering can and water the plants lightly. Place each terrarium near a window, keeping them away from direct sunlight. Place a piece of plastic wrap over the top of the fish bowls to keep the moisture in.

**Make Dinosaur Eggs:** Try Group Pack Item # GP1634, where you create and paint giant eggs, made from paper mache and balloons, and then "hatch" them to reveal the dino inside.

### Language Arts

#### Write a story about a dinosaur bone discovery.

Suggested time frame: 45 minutes.

You will need nonfiction dinosaur books and writing paper.

Prior to the lesson, find some nonfiction children's books about dinosaurs, bones and fossils. With the class, discuss some of the steps and procedures used by paleontologists and others when discovering dinosaur bones. Some helpful books to use may be *My Visit to the Dinosaurs* by Alikei, *Dinosaurs and How They Lived* by Steve Parker and *Dinosaurs* by David Norman and Angela Milner. Write some facts about fossils on the board, i.e., The Stegosaurus had a long, pointed head and spikes at the end of its tail. Ask students to pretend that they are paleontologists (people who study prehistoric animal and plant fossils) going on a dinosaur bone hunt. Have students write a story about a dinosaur bone discovery. Their stories should include where they were, what bones/fossils they found, what dinosaurs the bones belonged to and how they felt during and after their exciting bone discovery. When finished, students can share their stories with the class.

#### Write a fictional story about living with the dinosaurs.

Suggested time frame: 45 minutes.

You will need writing paper, drawing paper and crayons or colored pencils.

Discuss what other animals and wildlife that were living at the time of the dinosaurs. Use reference materials if necessary to find additional information. Briefly discuss the timeline of when dinosaurs lived (more than 65 million years ago) and when people first walked the earth (3.5 million years ago). Tell the class to imagine what life would be like if dinosaurs were still alive. Ask students to write a fictional story about meeting a dinosaur. They should include where the dinosaur would live, what it would be doing and how people would react to meeting the dinosaur. Students can illustrate the story as they write.

#### Use symbols to tell a story about prehistoric time.

Suggested time frame: 30 minutes.

You will need writing paper.

Explain to students that prehistoric time was a long period of time before people started recording history. Millions of years after the dinosaurs were extinct there were cave people. These people did not have spoken and written languages like we have now, so they needed to find a way to communicate. Many of these people used symbols to represent words when communicating. Ask students to imagine what it was like to live in prehistoric time. Discuss what materials people might have used to write stories (paint, dye, rocks, caves, etc.) and what these people might write about (fighting, hunting, animals, food). Have students create symbols for common words. Using their symbols, have students write a story about prehistoric time. Make sure they make a key to go along with their stories. When the stories are complete, students can exchange their key and story with another student to see if they can read the story.

**KEY:**    hunt            animal            tree  
                 (symbol)    (symbol)            (symbol)

### Social Studies

#### Create dinosaur footprint fossils.

Suggested time frame: 30 minutes.

You will need clay, a rolling pin, pictures of dinosaur fossils and index cards.

Discuss some of the ways researchers and paleontologists have discovered what dinosaurs look like. Display pictures from dinosaur books that show dinosaur fossils. Explain that a fossil is a plant, animal or part of a rock. Over many years, the remains become embedded into the rock. Nowadays, we can find out what plants and animals looked like from a fossil. After looking at some dinosaur footprint fossil, tell the students that they are going to make their own dinosaur footprint fossils. Pass out a chunk of gray clay to each student. Have them roll out their clay so that