

Dino Word Search!

Names and terms to find:

Amargasaurus

Yi qi

Theropods

Pachycephalosaurus

Tyrannosaurus rex

Sauropod

Borealopelta

Mesozoic Era

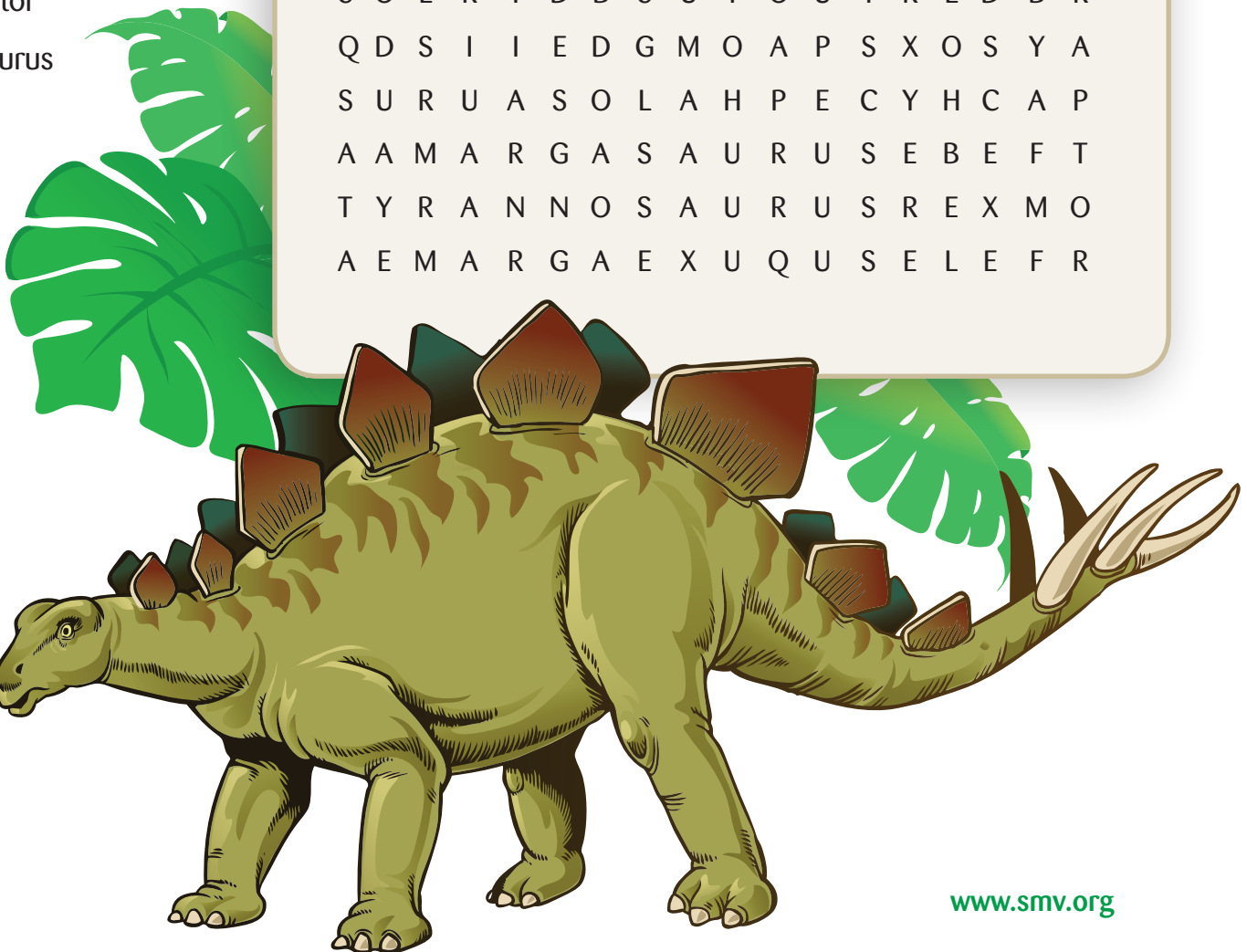
Stegosaurus

Velociraptor

Brontosaurus

Irritator

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Dino Names and Terms

Sauropod

The term for the long-necked, long-tailed herbivorous dinosaurs that includes some of the largest animals to ever live on land. *Apatosaurus*, *Diplodocus* and *Brachiosaurus* are all sauropods. Most sauropods and theropods had a system of air sacs in their vertebrae—hollow bones—just like birds.

Amargasaurus, “La Amarga lizard”

Unusual Argentinian, Early Cretaceous sauropods that have tall projecting neural spines (spikes coming out of the top of their neck vertebrae) some of which are two feet long!

Yi qi, “strange wing”

Small dinosaur from the Late Jurassic of China. One of the shortest scientific names of any species. This odd little dinosaur not only had long tail feathers, but also seems to have had a combination of leathery skin and feathered wings.

Theropods

The term for carnivorous (although some evolved to become herbivores), bipedal, three-toed dinosaurs. *Tyrannosaurus rex*, *Allosaurus*, *Velociraptor* and modern birds are all theropods.

Pachycephalosaur, “thick headed lizard”

Late Cretaceous, herbivorous dinosaur from North America famous for its extremely thick skull dome. Scientists still don’t completely understand why they had such thick skulls, although there is good evidence that they were used for head-butting as male bighorn sheep do today.

Tyrannosaurus rex, “tyrant lizard king”

Everyone’s favorite dinosaur! Late Cretaceous theropod dinosaur from the Western United States, although relatives lived in Asia. Since all of *T. rex*’s closest relatives had feathers, it’s highly likely that *T. rex* was feathered as well.

Borealopelta, “Northern shield”

A simply amazing ankylosaur fossil from the early Cretaceous period found in Alberta Canada. It’s one the best preserved, “mummified” dinosaur fossils ever found. It’s preserved in three dimensions, including its exterior armor plating and soft tissue.

Mesozoic Era

The Mesozoic Era is the geological time interval between 252-66 million years ago popularly known as the Age of Reptiles. The Mesozoic contains the Triassic, Jurassic and Cretaceous periods.



Stegosaurus, “covered reptile”

This Jurassic beast was a bizarre plant eater who grew to lengths of 25 feet. *Stegosaurus* had an array of bony, semi triangular plates that stood on edge and ran the length of the dinosaur’s back. The tail of *Stegosaurus* ended in several long spikes known as a thagomizer. There are several types of stegosaurs known; *Tuojiangosaurus* (Tuo River China reptile) had additional spikes coming out of its shoulders!

Velociraptor, “swift thief”

This small predatory dinosaur lived in Mongolia during the Late Cretaceous. *Velociraptor* is characterized by the oversized sickle-like claw on the second toe of the hind foot. The dinosaur was much smaller than it was portrayed in the movie, *Jurassic Park*, that made it famous. It was only about the size of a turkey! *Velociraptor* was also covered with feathers.

Brontosaurus, “thunder lizard”

Brontosaurus is back baby! When first named in 1879, many of the fossils assigned this name were poorly described. Later, other scientists reviewed the fossils and determined that they actually belonged to an *Apatosaurus* (a different dinosaur) so that *Brontosaurus* was no more. Then, in 2015 we got the good news! A new study suggested that the original *Apatosaurus* and *Brontosaurus* fossils appear different enough to belong to separate groups after all!

Irritator

A type of spinosaur dinosaur from the Early Cretaceous of Brazil. The paleontologists who named it were “irritated” by the heavy damage the skull had sustained!