

# Dinosaur Facts

## Activity 1: Grades 3-5

Students research dinosaurs and play a game based on their research.



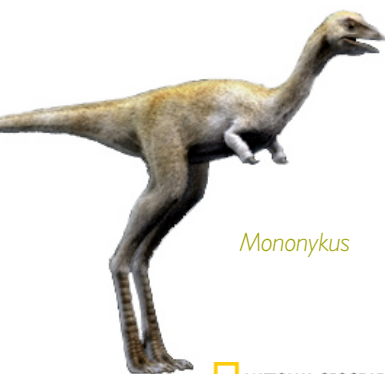
### Directions:

- 1. Introduce the activity.** Explain to students that scientists differentiate between various dinosaurs in part based on their unique physical features. Scientists infer that many of these features were adaptations to prehistoric environments.
- 2. Distribute Dinosaur Fact Sheet Handout to each student.**
- 3. Divide class into small groups.** Working in small groups, students can use Internet or library resources to complete the Dinosaur Fact Sheet.

#### Suggested Online Resources:

- National Geographic: Animals—Prehistoric
- National Geographic Magazine: Dinosaurs Come Alive

- 4. Review answers.** As a class, review answers to the Dinosaur Fact Sheet.



*Mononykus*



*Velociraptor*

### Answer Key:

1. *Troodon formosus*
2. *Ankylosaurus magniventris*
3. *Thescelosaurus neglectus*
4. *Pachycephalosaurus wyomingensis*
5. *Leptoceratops gracilis*
6. *Mononykus olecranus*
7. *Tyrannosaurus rex*
8. *Velociraptor mongoliensis*
9. *Lesothosaurus diagnosticus*
10. *Triceratops horridus*

# Dinosaur Bingo

## Activity 2: Grades 3-5

Students create a bingo card and play a bingo game by answering the questions they researched in Activity 1.



### Directions:

- 1. Distribute the Dinosaur Bingo Pictures and Dinosaur Bingo Card to each student.** One page is filled with 30 images of dinosaurs, and the other is a blank card with 25 spaces. Tell students to cut out the dinosaur picture squares and mix them up. Students should randomly select 25 dinosaurs to glue or tape in each blank square. They will not use all of the pictures.
- 2. Distribute markers.** Each student will need approximately 20 markers to use when they are playing the bingo game.
- 3. Explain game rules:**
  - Students play the game individually with the bingo card they created and their completed Dinosaur Fact Sheet (Activity 1).

- You will call out clues from the Dinosaur Fact Sheet. Players use their fact sheets to look up the correct answer. Then, they look on their bingo card for an image of the correct answer and place a marker in this space. They may place only one marker if they have more than one image of the animal.
- Players compete to be the first to fill five spaces in a row, column, or diagonal.
- You will continue calling out clues until a player wins and announces, "Dinosaur Bingo!"

- 4. Start the game by asking the first question.** Keep track of clues (and answers) you use. Continue asking questions until a student announces that they have won. Check their card to make sure they have the correct answers. If an answer is incorrect, you should continue the game. If it is a winning bingo card, the round is over, and students should clear their cards so that a new round can begin.



*Leptoceratops*

*Triceratops*

*Lesothosaurus*

## Student Handout

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Dinosaur Fact Sheet

Use library or Internet resources to research the answers to the following questions. Your answers will be one of the dinosaurs listed below.

*Ankylosaurus magniventris*

*Leptoceratops gracilis*

*Lesothosaurus diagnosticus*

*Mononykus olecranus*

*Pachycephalosaurus wyomingensis*

*Thescelosaurus neglectus*

*Triceratops horridus*

*Troodon formosus*

*Tyrannosaurus rex*

*Velociraptor mongoliensis*

1. This dinosaur had a large brain for its relatively small size, and was probably among the smartest dinosaurs. \_\_\_\_\_
2. This dinosaur was covered with hard, bony plates that offered superb protection from its most formidable predator, *Tyrannosaurus rex*. \_\_\_\_\_
3. A specimen, nicknamed “Willo,” may be the first dinosaur ever found with a fossilized heart. However, many scientists dispute these findings. \_\_\_\_\_
4. This “thick-headed” dinosaur’s distinctive domed cranium was so stout that it sometimes survives as a fossil when the rest of the skeleton degrades. \_\_\_\_\_
5. This small herbivore’s front legs were shorter than its hind legs, leading to hypotheses that it might have been able to stand or even walk on its hind legs. \_\_\_\_\_
6. This dinosaur’s most distinctive feature is its short, stunted forelimbs, each of which had only one functional finger with a formidable claw. \_\_\_\_\_
7. This dinosaur’s serrated, conical teeth were most likely used to pierce flesh and crush bone, which it then ripped away from the carcass with its brawny neck muscles. \_\_\_\_\_
8. Scientists have recently discovered direct evidence that this dinosaur was feathered. \_\_\_\_\_
9. Skeletal evidence indicates that this beaked dinosaur, which gets its name from the African country of Lesotho, was likely an agile biped. \_\_\_\_\_
10. Measuring four to five feet (1.2 to 1.5 meters) across, this dinosaur’s head was ornamented with impressive horns and a head plate, probably used as defense against predators. \_\_\_\_\_

# Dinosaur Bingo Pictures

Use scissors to cut out the dinosaur picture squares below. Mix them up and select 25.

 <i>Ankylosaurus magniventris</i>	 <i>Leptoceratops gracilis</i>	 <i>Lesothosaurus diagnosticus</i>	 <i>Mononykus olecranus</i>	 <i>Pachycephalosaurus wyomingensis</i>
 <i>Thescelosaurus neglectus</i>	 <i>Triceratops horridus</i>	 <i>Troodon formosus</i>	 <i>Tyrannosaurus rex</i>	 <i>Velociraptor mongoliensis</i>
 <i>Ankylosaurus magniventris</i>	 <i>Leptoceratops gracilis</i>	 <i>Lesothosaurus diagnosticus</i>	 <i>Mononykus olecranus</i>	 <i>Pachycephalosaurus wyomingensis</i>
 <i>Thescelosaurus neglectus</i>	 <i>Triceratops horridus</i>	 <i>Troodon formosus</i>	 <i>Tyrannosaurus rex</i>	 <i>Velociraptor mongoliensis</i>
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 <i>Thescelosaurus neglectus</i>	 <i>Triceratops horridus</i>	 <i>Troodon formosus</i>	 <i>Tyrannosaurus rex</i>	 <i>Velociraptor mongoliensis</i>





# Dinosaur Bingo Cards

Glue or tape a dinosaur picture in each square of the grid below. Place them in random order so that your card is unique.

Dinosaur				
B	I	N	G	O
