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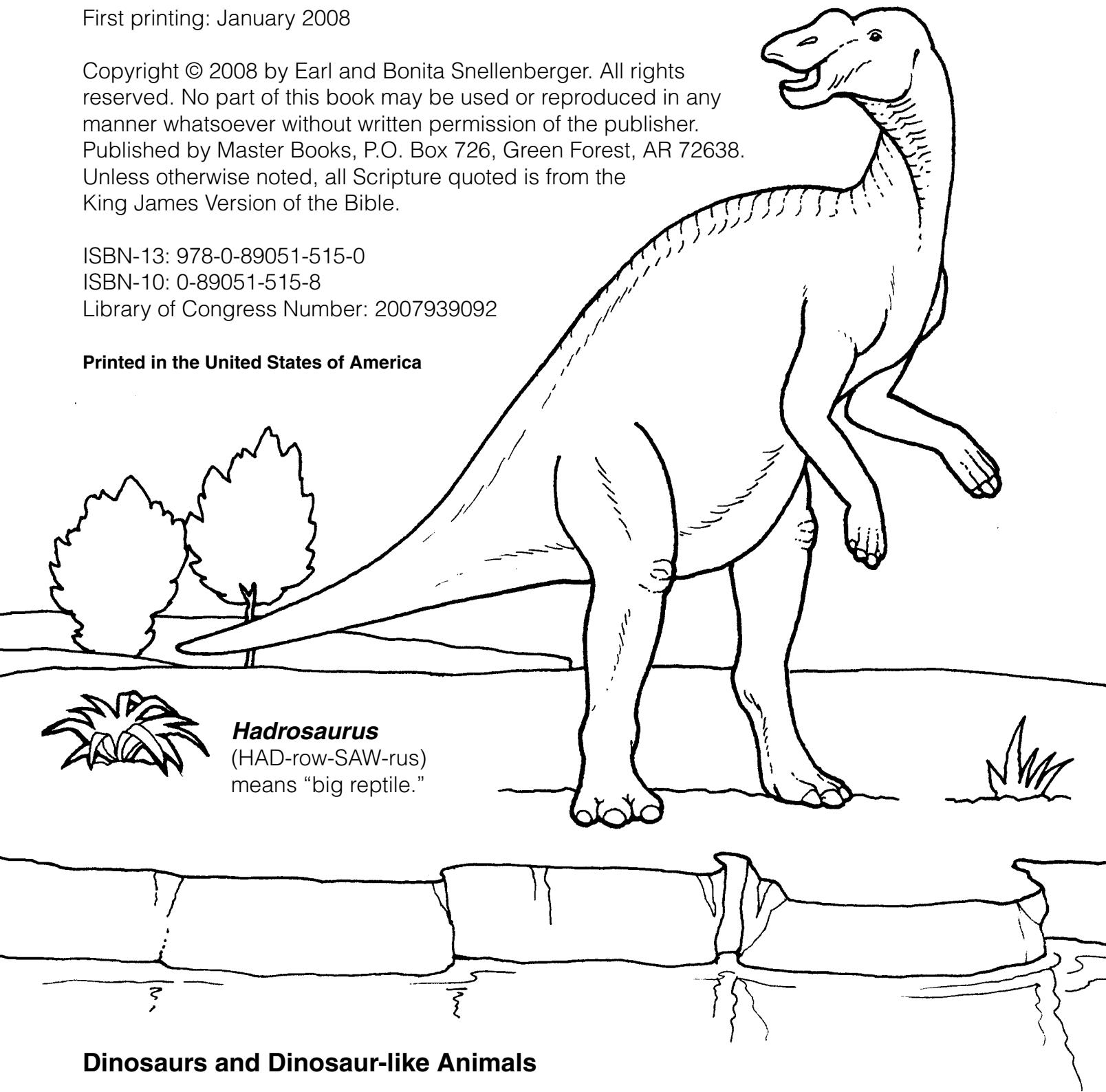
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Hadrosaurus
(HAD-row-SAW-rus)
means "big reptile."

Dinosaurs and Dinosaur-like Animals

Anyone might expect a big dinosaur activity book to have many different dinosaurs in it. And it does! But this book is also about much more than dinosaurs.

Technically speaking, the term "dinosaur" should be used only to describe a particular group of reptiles that lived on land. In some books, however, you may find an author describing some creatures that flew in the air as "flying dinosaurs." In other books you may find the author calling certain animals that lived in the water "aquatic dinosaurs."

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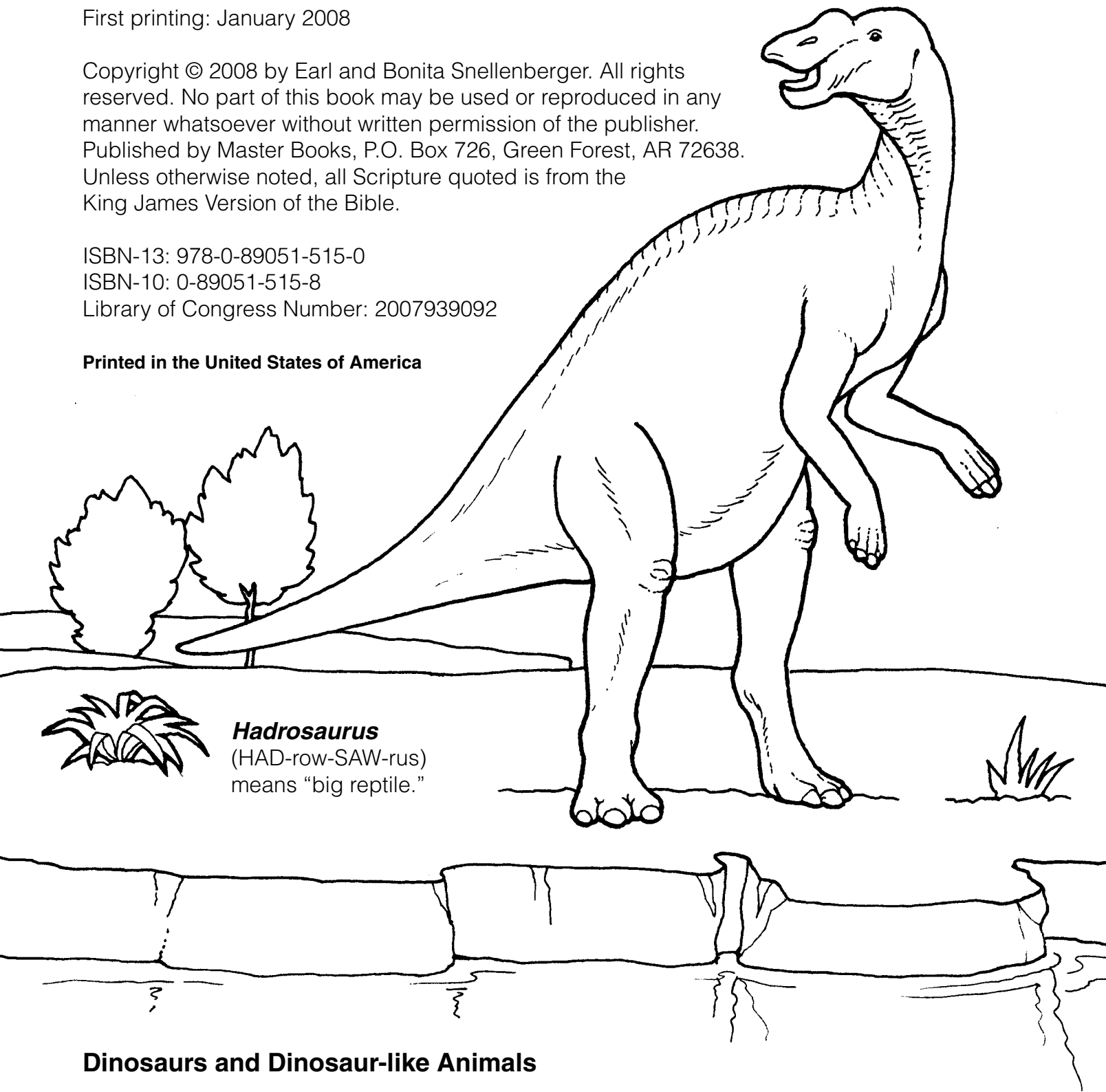
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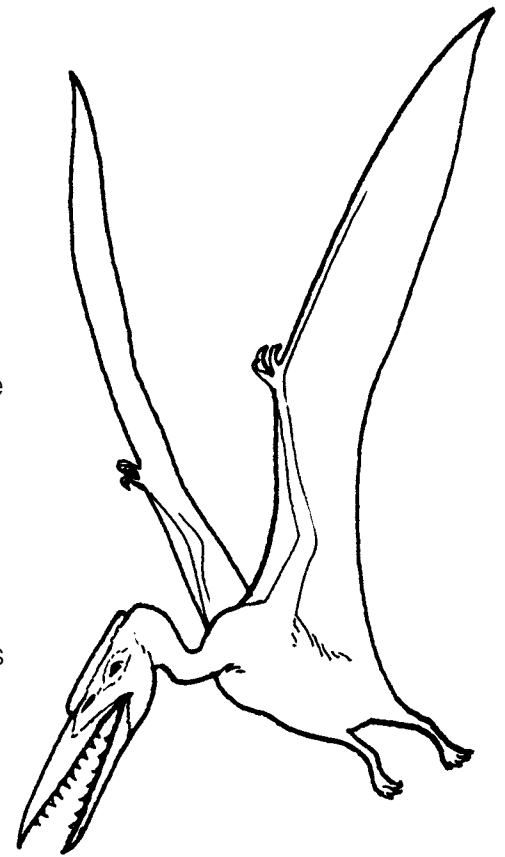
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We could call these creatures that flew in the sky and swam in the oceans “dinosaur-like” animals, but it would be incorrect to say that they are dinosaurs. Dinosaurs were earthbound creatures that only lived on land, although some may have been able to swim well as do many land animals alive today.

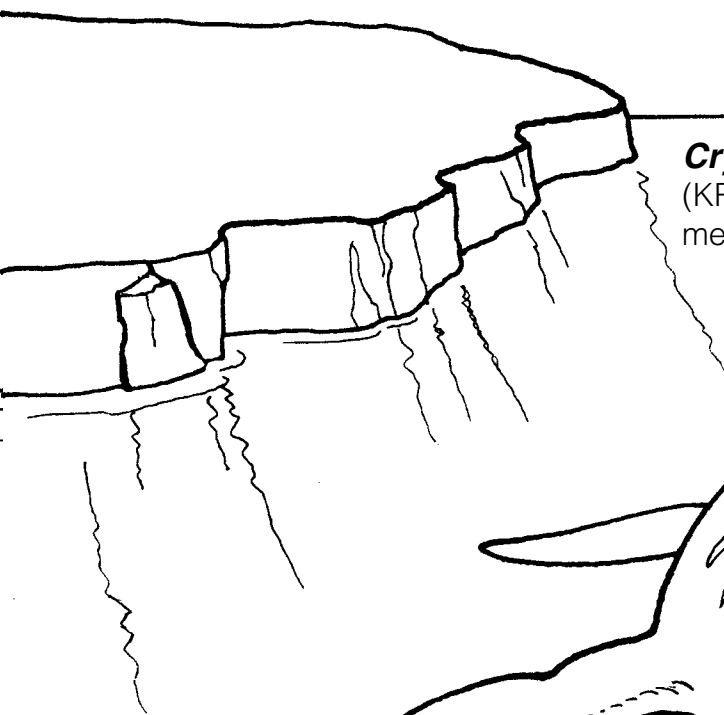
While they are not truly dinosaurs, this book includes many dinosaur-like beasts as a part of “dinosaur life” because they are usually associated with dinosaurs in books, films, and television shows. Whatever their differences, however, there is one thing true dinosaurs do have in common with dinosaur-like animals — we can know for certain they all were created by God!

The Bible says in Exodus 20:11, “For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is. . . .” Dinosaurs and every other animal that ever lived on earth are all special creations of God.



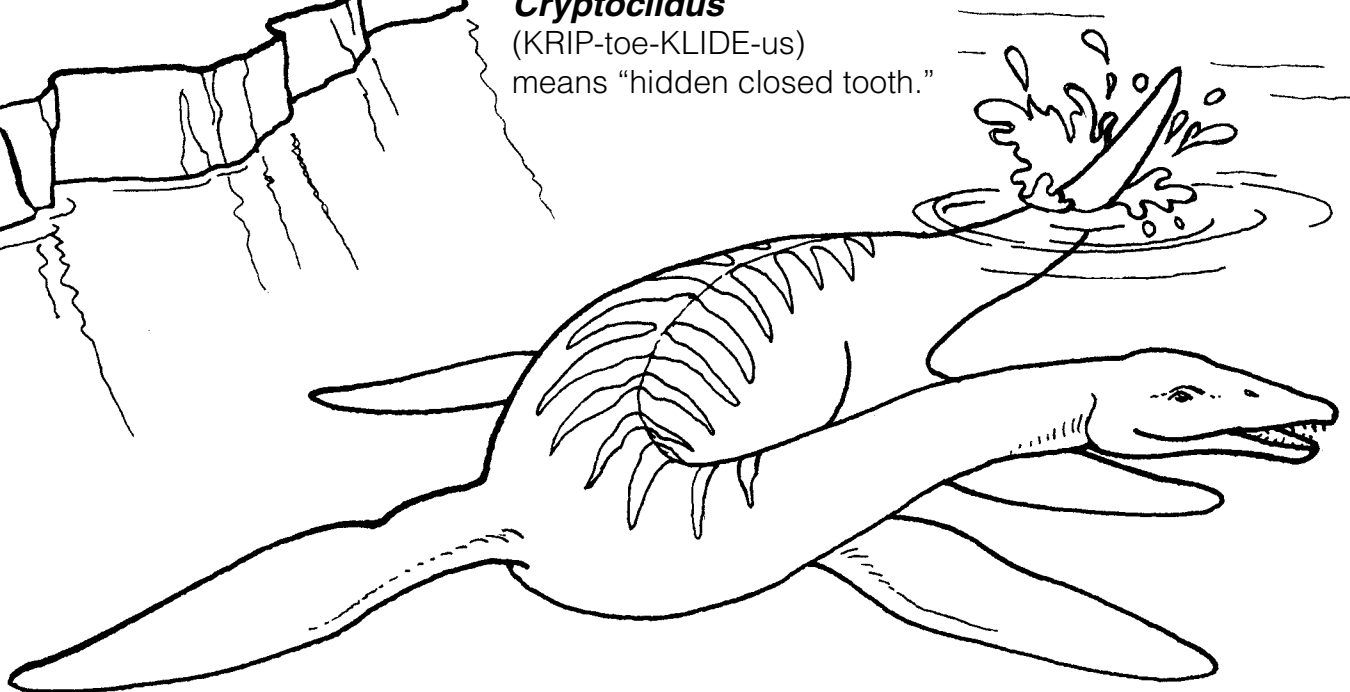
Germanodactylus

(jer-MAN-oh-DAK-tih-lus)
means “German finger.”



Cryptoclidus

(KRIP-toe-KLIDE-us)
means “hidden closed tooth.”

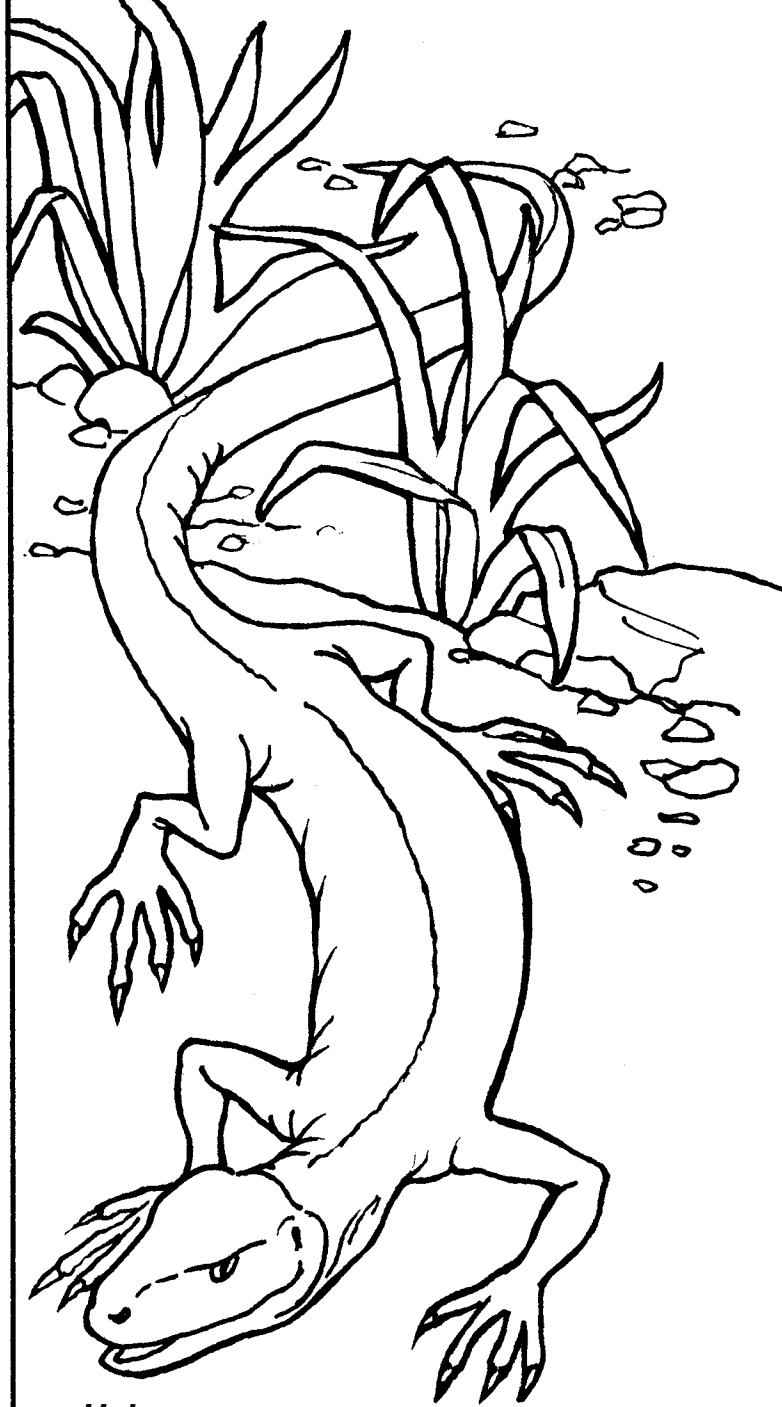


What Makes a Dinosaur a Dinosaur?

Scientists believe that dinosaurs are a special type of reptile. A reptile is any of a class (*Reptilia*) of cold-blooded, air-breathing vertebrates (having a segmented spinal column), including snakes, crocodiles, lizards, and turtles, and having bodies usually covered with horny plates or scales.

Sir Richard Owen, famed anatomist and founder of the British Museum of Natural History, invented the word *dinosaur* in 1841. Owen did this when he realized that the bones of two huge, extinct creatures he examined were different from any of the reptiles listed above — different from any other group of land animals he had studied. Owen felt the two creatures were from a unique group that needed its own name, so he coined the word “dinosaur,” which means “terrible lizard.” Since dinosaurs are not actually lizards, the word “dinosaur” is often translated “terrible reptile” today.

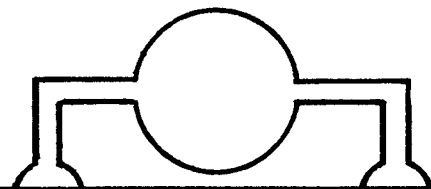
What is the difference between a dinosaur and other similar land creatures? It isn't a matter of size. There were tiny dinosaurs as well as enormous dinosaurs. And it isn't a matter of how many legs the creature had. Some dinosaurs were quadrupedal (walking on four legs), while others were bipedal (walking on two legs). What matters is the placement of the legs related to the body and their movement. Unlike other reptiles, the legs of dinosaurs were placed under the bodies. A wide-spread, crocodile-like stance is not suitable for more than a short sprint. But dinosaurs could support their bodies with little effort upon the underslung legs God gave them, allowing them to move quickly over great distances without tiring.



Hylonomus

(hie-luh-NOE-muss)
means “wood dweller.”

Hylonomus was not a dinosaur, but a lizard-like reptile. It would have likely walked with a serpentine waddle, belly to the ground.

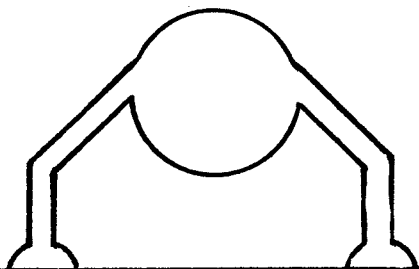


LEGS SPREAD WIDE IN A
SPRAWLING POSITION

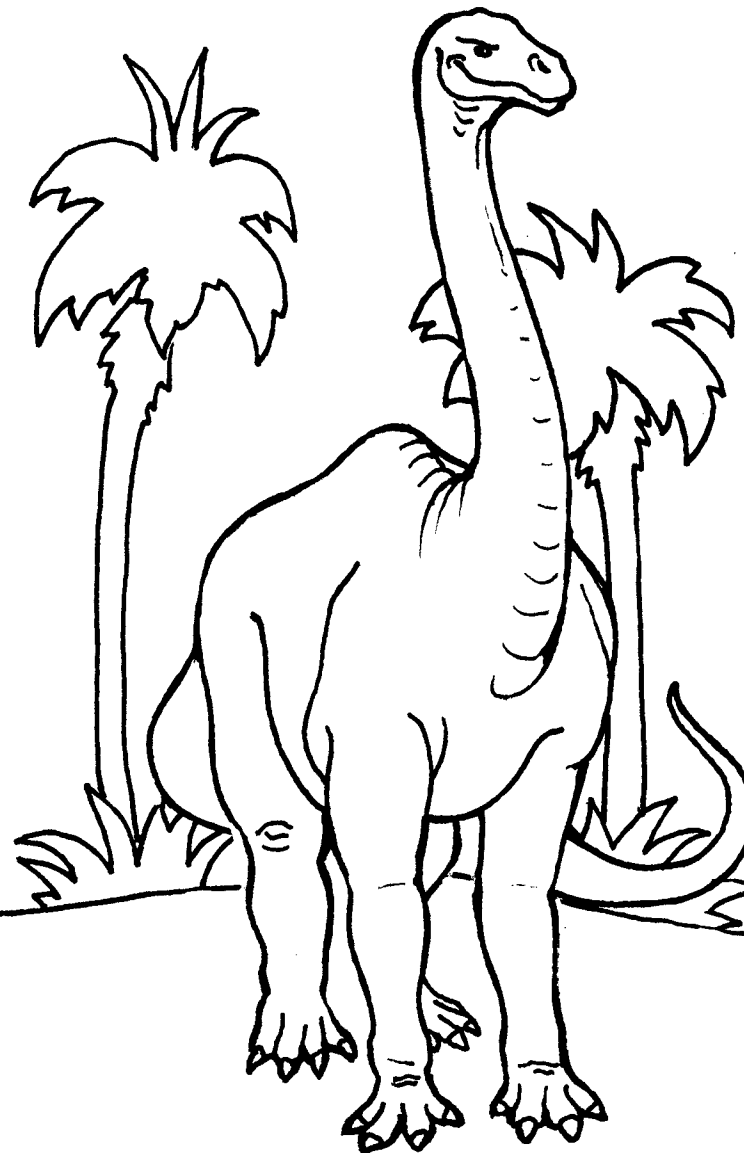


Inostrancevia

(in-OS-tran-SEV-ee-ah) was named after Russian paleontologist Aleksandr Inostrancev. *Inostrancevia* was not a true dinosaur, but one of the extinct reptiles of the order *Therapsid*, falsely imagined by evolutionists to be the ancestors of mammals.

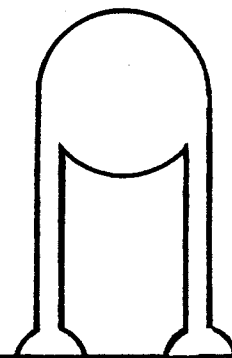


LEGS BENT OUT IN A CROCODILE-LIKE POSITION



Melanorosaurus

(mel-ah-nor-uh-SAW-rus) means "black mountain reptile." *Melanorosaurus* was a dinosaur.



A DINOSAUR'S LEGS WERE IN AN UNDER-THE-BODY POSITION

Fossils — Evidence of a Global Catastrophe

The word *fossil* comes from a Latin word meaning “dug up.” Much of what is known about dinosaurs has come from examining their dug-up fossilized remains. Dinosaur fossils have been found on every continent, so there is no doubt they once existed on planet earth. Most of the dinosaur fossils that fill today’s museums were collected in the last 150 years. Fossilized dinosaur bones were found in earlier times, but no one fully understood what they were.

Sir Richard Owen realized what dinosaur fossils were, however, for he was a man who believed the Bible is God’s Word — and that everything in it is absolutely true. He realized that dinosaur fossils were the remains of creatures buried long ago, most likely in the global flood of Noah’s time.

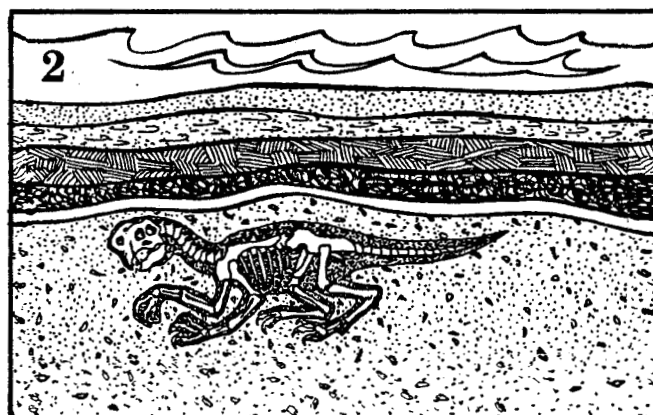
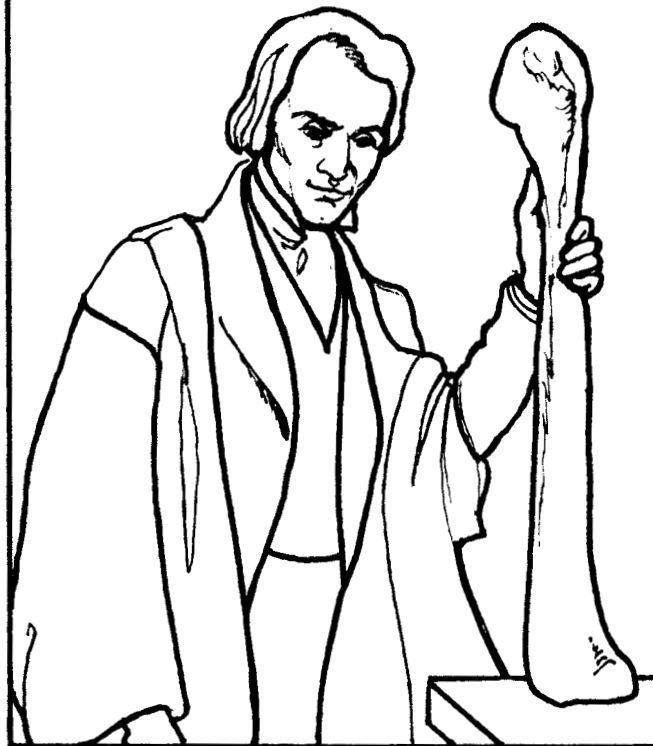
How Fossils Were Formed

Fossils are the remains of plants and animals that have been preserved in rock. Fossils are not formed when a living thing dies under normal conditions — scavengers, decay, and weather destroy their remains. Most fossils start out as plants and animals trapped in sediment — the mud or sand that settles from flood waters. In fact, the Great Flood is the best explanation for the thousands upon thousands of dinosaur fossils that have been found from Alaska and Siberia to Antarctica.

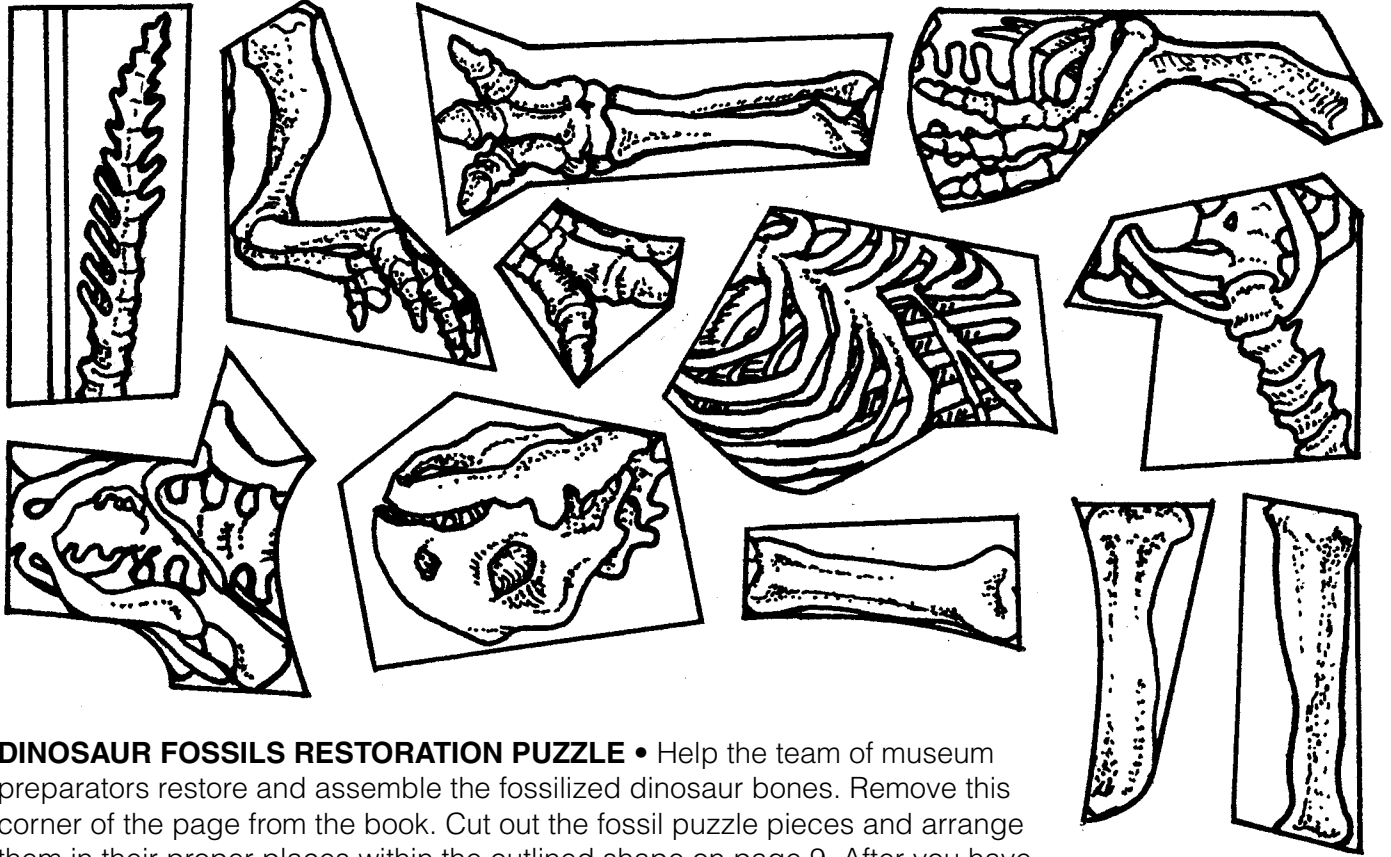
This is how dinosaur fossils came to be as a result of the Great Flood:

1. The Great Flood suddenly buried a dinosaur under tons of water and mud. Escape was impossible.

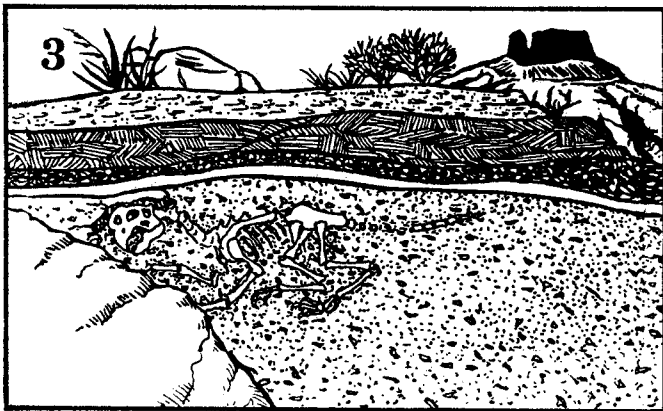
Sir Richard Owen made up the word *dinosaur*, which means terrible lizard (*deino* = terrible; *sauros* = lizard).



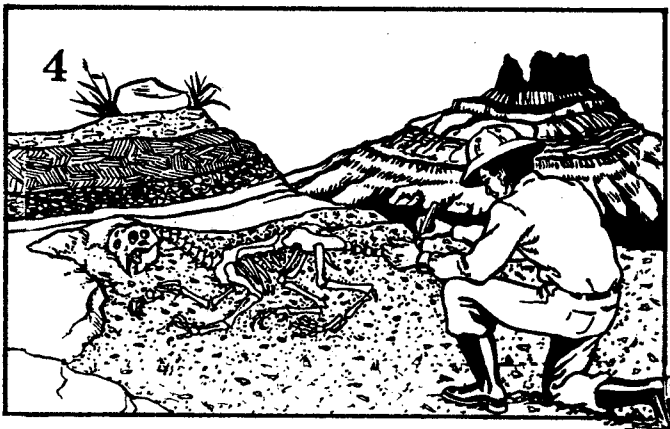
CUT ON THIS DOTTED LINE TO KEEP PAGES FROM FALLING OUT OF THIS BOOK



DINOSAUR FOSSILS RESTORATION PUZZLE • Help the team of museum preparators restore and assemble the fossilized dinosaur bones. Remove this corner of the page from the book. Cut out the fossil puzzle pieces and arrange them in their proper places within the outlined shape on page 9. After you have arranged all the puzzle pieces correctly, paste or glue them in place.



2. The dinosaur's body was trapped by layers of sediment laid down by the Flood's waters. Soft body parts decayed, but the bones remained.

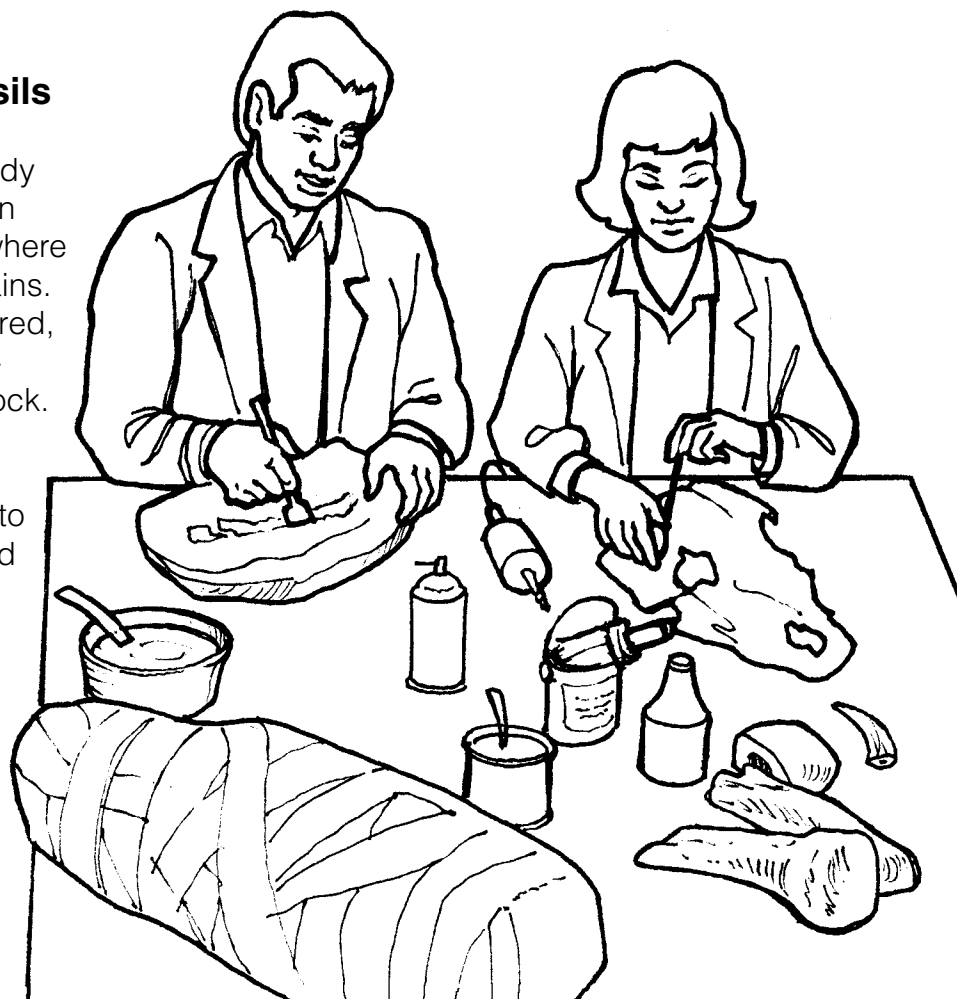


3. God caused high mountains to rise up and deep valleys to sink down so that the Flood waters "fled" and "hastened away" into new, enlarged ocean basins (Psalm 104:5-9). The earth began to dry out, and minerals in the mud, sand, and water replaced the bones — and they became like rock.

4. Dinosaur fossils become exposed as the ground around them erodes away or people dig for them. Dinosaur fossils are a testimony to the worldwide graveyard the earth became as a result of the Great Flood.

Reconstructing Dinosaur Fossils

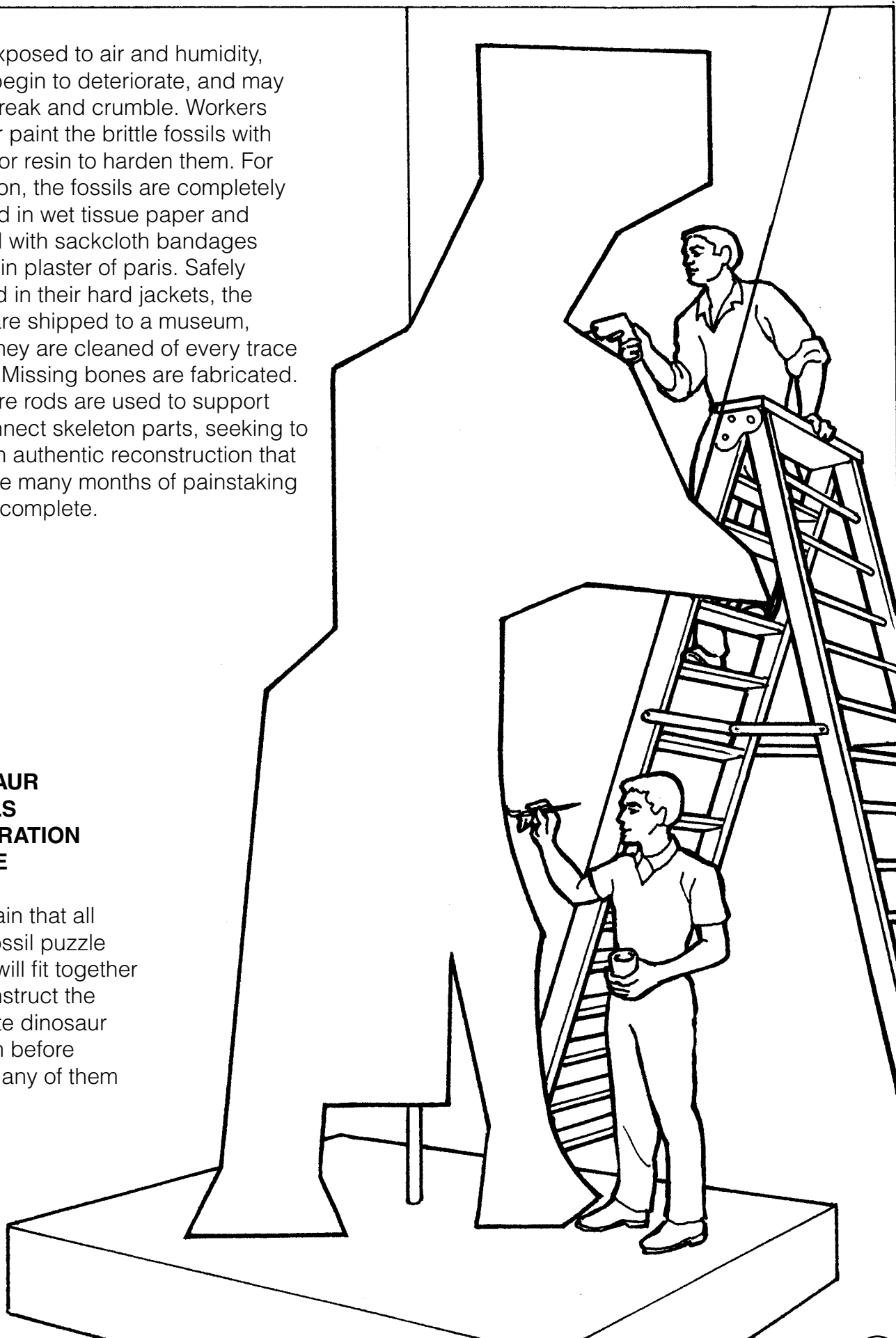
Paleontologists are scientists who study fossils. To paleontologists interested in studying dinosaurs, a “dig” is a site where workers dig to unearth dinosaur remains. When a dinosaur fossil dig is discovered, paleontologists may need to use bulldozers or dynamite to move tons of rock. Then picks and shovels are utilized, followed by careful hand work with hammers, chisels, and small spades to remove the fossils safely from the hard surrounding stone. Fossils are numbered, measured, and photographed. Exact diagrams are made of the location of the fossils to help museum technicians, called preparators, reconstruct the dinosaurs as accurately as possible.

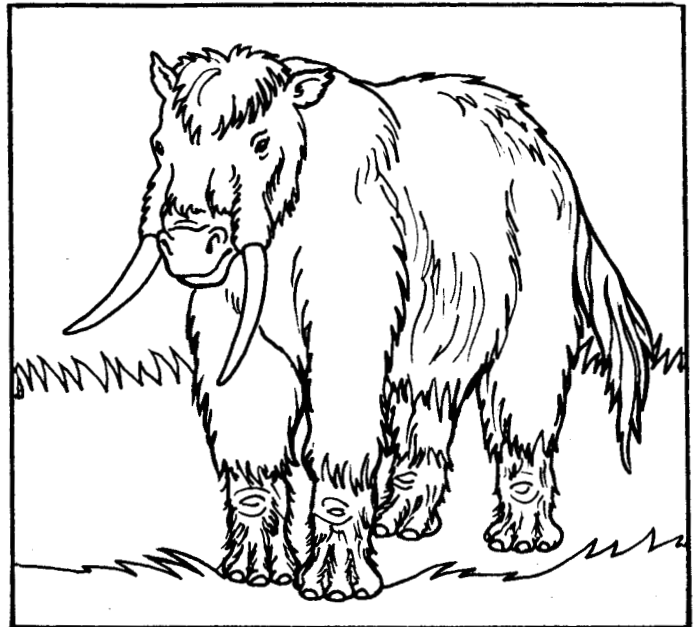
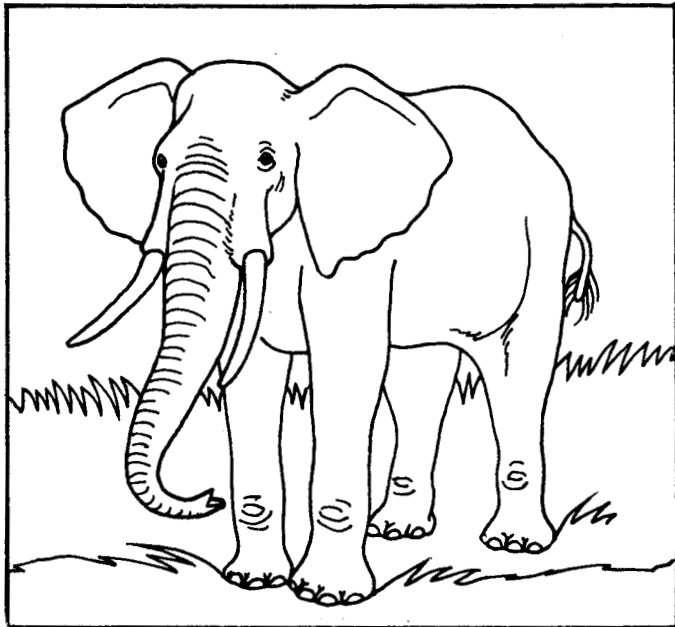


Once exposed to air and humidity, fossils begin to deteriorate, and may easily break and crumble. Workers spray or paint the brittle fossils with shellac or resin to harden them. For protection, the fossils are completely wrapped in wet tissue paper and covered with sackcloth bandages soaked in plaster of paris. Safely encased in their hard jackets, the fossils are shipped to a museum, where they are cleaned of every trace of rock. Missing bones are fabricated. Then wire rods are used to support and connect skeleton parts, seeking to make an authentic reconstruction that may take many months of painstaking work to complete.

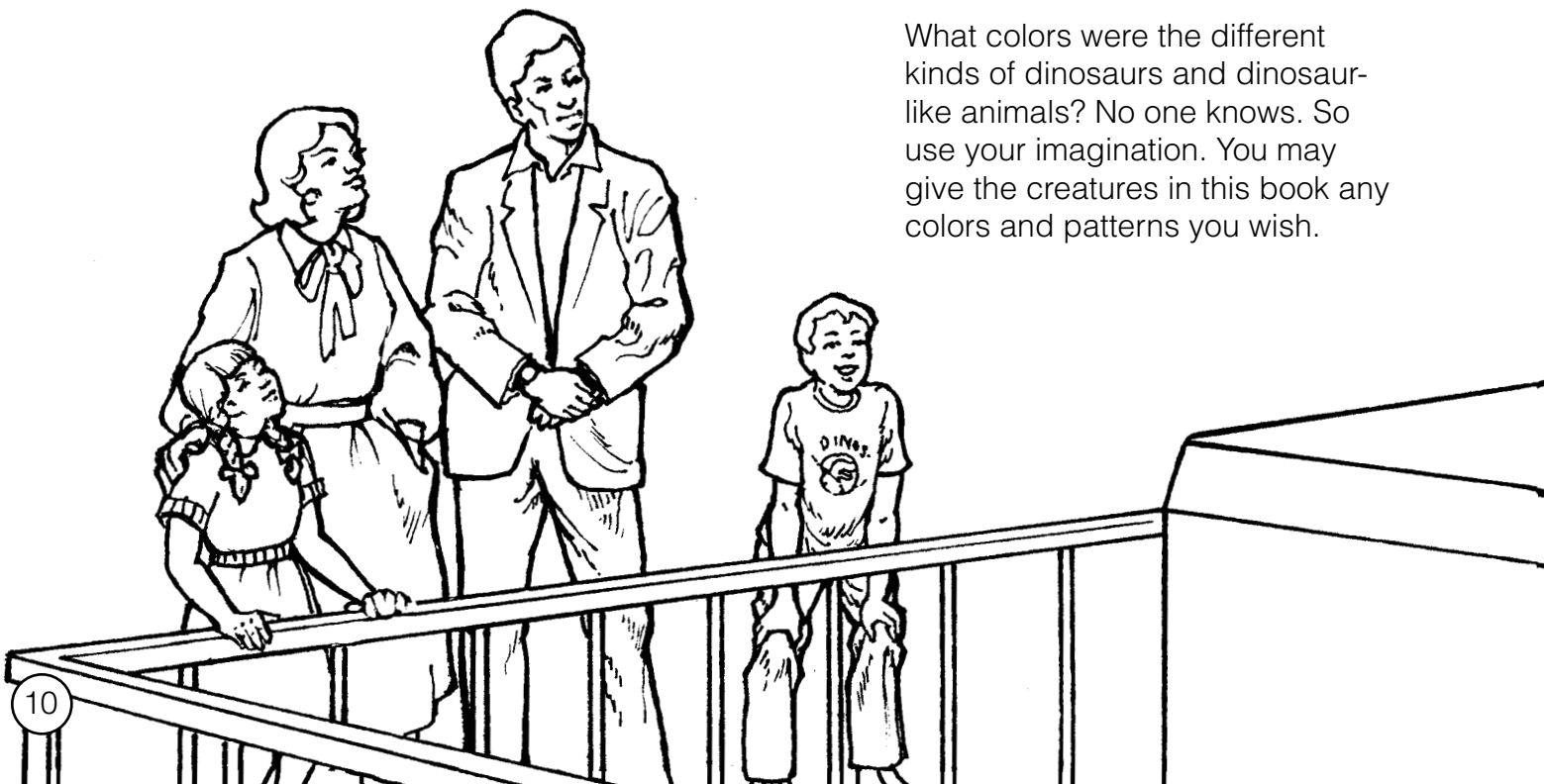
DINOSAUR FOSSILS RESTORATION PUZZLE

Be certain that all of the fossil puzzle pieces will fit together to reconstruct the complete dinosaur skeleton before pasting any of them down.

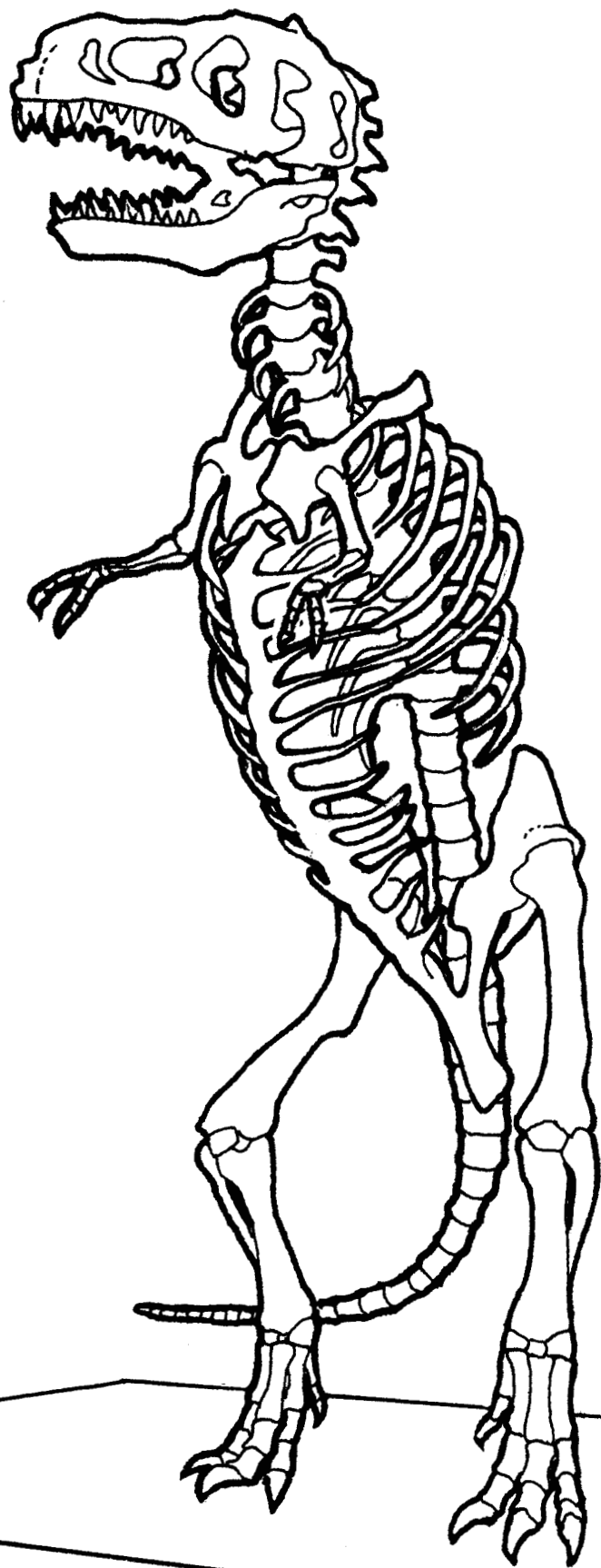




It's exciting to read about dinosaurs and to see displays of reconstructed dinosaurs in museums, but we must always keep in mind that much of what we read and see concerning dinosaurs is highly imaginative and very questionable. To better understand the problems scientists deal with when they try to reconstruct an animal from its fossils, let us suppose that elephants were extinct. If elephants were known only as fossils, there would be no record of the fleshy parts of their bodies, long trunks, and large ears. Reconstructing an elephant from its fossilized bones and tusks alone could not possibly give us a true picture of how it actually looked. An elephant might likely be pictured as the trunkless and tiny-eared creature shown on the above right — certainly not as we know an elephant to be! No matter how well intentioned scientists are in restoring dinosaurs from their fossilized remains, much of what they do comes from their imaginations.



What colors were the different kinds of dinosaurs and dinosaur-like animals? No one knows. So use your imagination. You may give the creatures in this book any colors and patterns you wish.



Scientists who study the bones of dinosaurs try to imagine what the creatures looked like and how they lived by considering the evidence available at the time. Such thinking shows in the names they give to newly discovered dinosaurs. The names, usually in the Greek or Latin languages, may say something about the discovery of the dinosaur (such as where it was found) or something the scientist thinks to be true about the creature. For example, the name *Tyrannosaurus rex* (pronounced tie-RAN-oh-SAWR-us rex) means “tyrant reptile king.” Today, however, some scientists believe *T-rex* was not at all the fierce hunter this name suggests, but a scavenger with weak little arms, eating carrion (animals already dead). Tomorrow, who knows what other scientists may imagine about *Tyrannosaurus*?

God never makes mistakes, and He is always right about everything. But scientists are human beings, and human beings do make mistakes and are often wrong. Time and time again, what scientists once believed to be true about dinosaurs has turned out to be wrong. The history of the study of dinosaur life is filled with one imaginative mistake after another.

Working together, scientists, preparators, and artists have made life-sized models of dinosaurs — using their imaginations to make them appear lifelike. Perhaps you have seen such models displayed in a museum. Fold over on the dotted line of this page to turn the *Tyrannosaurus rex* skeleton into a dinosaur model.