

PAPER WORLD

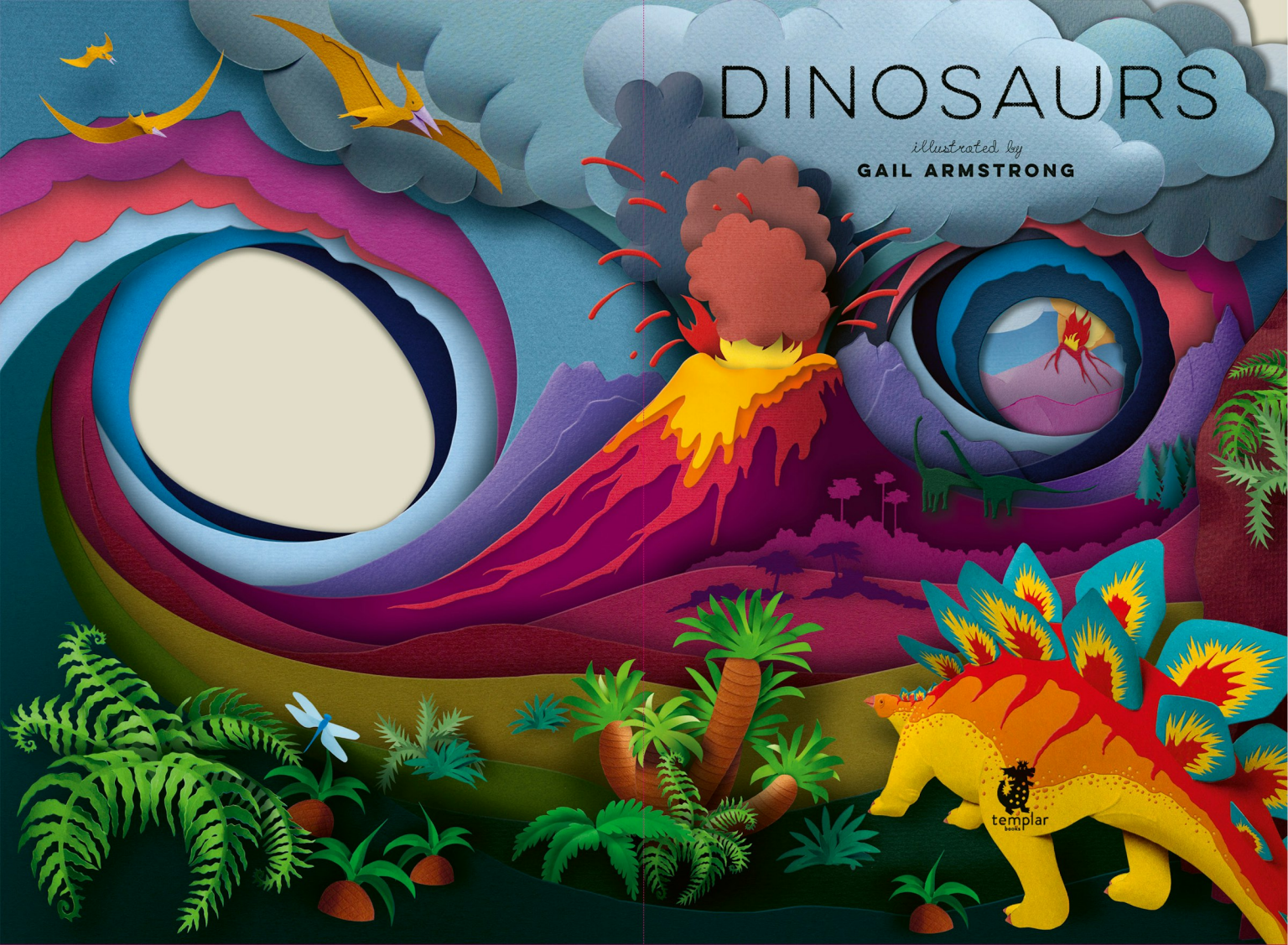
DINOSAURS

Take a
closer look
at Dinosaurs –
with 40 flaps
to lift!

illustrated by
GAIL ARMSTRONG

DINOSAURS

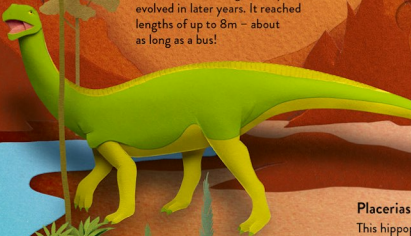
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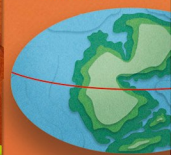
templar
books

Mussaurus

This plant-eater was one of the ancestors of the huge sauropods that evolved in later years. It reached lengths of up to 8m – about as long as a bus!



By the end of the Triassic, had begun to drift apart in continents: Laurasia in the north and Gondwana in the south.



Permian
225 million years ago

Paraps...
All the...
Earth...
in the...
Temper...
had...
from...
least...
times...

Placerias

This hippopotamus-like plant-eater belonged to a family called 'dicynodonts', meaning 'two dog tooth' – thanks to their two tusks.



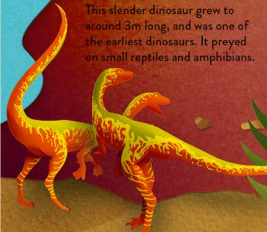
Herrerasaurus

This fearsome predator reached lengths of 3m, with sharp claws for grabbing its prey.



Coelophysis

This slender dinosaur grew to around 3m long, and was one of the earliest dinosaurs. It preyed on small reptiles and amphibians.



lizard-hipped...
(chian), depending on the...
their pubic bones pointed.



Parasuchus

Crocodile-like Parasuchus ate fish and grew to around 2m long



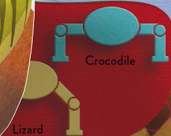
Nyasaurus

Nyasaurus fossils have been discovered in rocks 243 million years old, making it the earliest known dinosaur.



Saurosuchus

This 5-metre-long hunter was a non-dinosaur reptile that lived alongside dinosaurs. Tooth marks in fossils suggest it ate small dinosaurs.



Crocodile

Lizard

Eoraptor

This fox-sized dinosaur ran on two legs and only reached lengths of around 1m.



Early mammals

... true mammals were...
... animals, such as the...
one-metre-long Eozostrodon.



TRIASSIC

The Triassic Period (252–201 million years ago) began after the worst extinction event in Earth's history. Almost 90 per cent of species were wiped out, but as Earth slowly recovered, plant and animal life boomed. Reptiles became increasingly diverse. Then, around 240 million years ago, the first dinosaurs evolved. Quick, two-legged reptiles, these early dinosaurs were tiny compared to the giants that followed in their footsteps, and fed on a mixture of plants and meat.

Over the course of the Triassic, dinosaurs and their relatives grew in number and became more and more diverse – varying wildly in size, diet and lifestyle. By the end of the period, they and their relatives were increasingly dominant: dinosaurs roamed the land, pterosaurs soared the skies and huge marine reptiles swam in the oceans.

CRETACEOUS PERIOD

The Cretaceous Period lasted from 145–66 million years ago. These were the final years of the dinosaurs, before a huge extinction event wiped them out and drew a close to the Age of the Dinosaur. By the Cretaceous, dinosaurs were bigger, faster and fiercer than ever before. They were also more diverse in appearance and lifestyle. Alongside ferocious meat-eaters such as Tyrannosaurus rex, lived enormous sauropods, and huge ranging herds of plant-eaters, which had amazing appearances and defensive features. These included armoured dinosaurs such as the ankylosaurs; horned ceratopsians such as Triceratops and duck-billed dinosaurs such as Parasaurolophus.

Not only were dinosaurs more diverse, but the creatures around them were, too. These included the ancestors of modern-mammals, as well as many varieties of reptiles, insects, trees and even the first flowers. Constant volcanic eruptions made the environment much warmer than it is today. Even the north and south poles were free from ice and covered in forests! Because of this, ocean levels were about 200 metres higher than they are now.

Ornithomimus

This ostrich-like meat-eater had a long, slender neck and ran quickly on two long legs.

Duck-billed dinosaurs

Hadrosaurs, or duck-billed dinosaurs, were known as the cows of the Cretaceous. This is because they grazed in huge herds across the Cretaceous plains. They are also known as duck-billed dinosaurs because of their beak-like mouth shape.

Pachycephalosaurius

This 4-metre-long dinosaur may have used its thick-domed skull to fight other males – like deer do today. The top of its skull was up to 25cm thick!

Tyrannosaurus rex

One of the largest land predators ever, T.rex grew over 12 metres long and had huge sharp teeth the size of bananas. Its name means 'king of the lizards'.

Ankylosaurus

This eight-metre-long dinosaur had a broad, tank-like body armoured with bony plates. Even its eyelids were armoured! Its tail acted like a club, which it could swing from side to side at attackers.

Triceratops

This huge ceratopsian (horned dinosaur) was the size of an African elephant, with three horns on its face, the longest nearly one metre long. It had a large frill at the back of its skull to defend its vulnerable neck from attack, and a beak-like mouth for eating plants.

Deinonychus

This smaller predator grew up to 3.5 metres long. Its name means 'terrible claw' referring to the sickle-shaped claw on each rear foot which it held up as it ran to keep it sharp.

Nests

Maiaasaura lived in herds to rear their young, like many animals today. The nests were scooped out of the ground and held as many as 40 eggs.

1978

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CRETACEOUS GIANTS

Sauropods were large, long-necked plant-eaters that first emerged in the Jurassic. They walked on four pillar-like legs to support their enormous weight, and spent all day grazing on leaves, ferns and horsetails, in order to take in enough nutrients. However, their long necks enabled them to reach even the highest trees, like giraffes today, so they could reach shoots and leaves inaccessible to smaller animals.

By the Cretaceous, some well-known species, such as *Diplodocus* had died out. But in their wake came the largest sauropods ever: the titanosaurs. Named after the mythological Titans of Ancient Greece, they grew to lengths of up to 30 metres: longer than three buses. They were the last great group of sauropods before the dinosaurs all went extinct.

Amargasaurus

Amargasaurus

This was a comparatively small sauropod, reaching lengths of just 13m. It had two rows of spines down its neck and back, which could have been used for display or defence

This huge dinosaur was covered in bony osteoderms to defend it from predators.

Abelisaurus

Few predators could have taken on the sheer size of a sauropod as prey, but one of those that could was *Abelisaurus*, a 7.5-metre-long hunter from what is now South America.

What's in a name?

The huge *Dreadnoughtus* was named after the mighty *Dreadnought* battleships of the earliest 20th century. The name means 'fears nothing' in Latin.

Dreadnoughtus

This 26m long giant was only discovered in 2005, from fossil remains in Patagonia, Argentina. It stood about as tall as a two-storey building.

Patagotitan

Possibly the largest land animal ever, scientists estimate *Patagotitan* may have reached lengths of over 30m.

