

## Objective

By the end of this lesson, the student will have a deeper understanding of dinosaurs, their habitats, and their extinction. They will also engage in creative activities that reinforce their learning and spark their imagination about these fascinating creatures.

## Materials and Prep

- Paper
- Pencils and colored pencils or markers
- Access to a computer or tablet (optional for research)
- A quiet space to work
- A timer (optional for timed activities)

Before the lesson, it may be helpful to review some basic facts about dinosaurs, including different types, their sizes, and their environments. This will provide a foundation for the activities.

## Activities

- **Dinosaur Drawing:**

Have the student choose their favorite dinosaur and draw it. Encourage them to add details about its habitat and what it might have looked like in its environment.

- **Dinosaur Research:**

Ask the student to pick a specific dinosaur and research it. They can write down interesting facts and prepare a short presentation or a poster about what they learned.

- **Fossil Creation:**

Using paper, the student can create their own "fossils" by pressing objects (like leaves or small toys) into the paper to make impressions. This mimics how real fossils are formed!

- **Dinosaur Habitat Diorama:**

Using paper and drawing materials, the student can create a diorama of a dinosaur habitat. They can include plants, water sources, and different types of dinosaurs that might live there.

- **Dinosaur Timeline:**

Challenge the student to create a timeline of dinosaur history, marking when different species lived and when they went extinct. They can draw pictures or use symbols to represent different dinosaurs.

## Talking Points

- "Dinosaurs lived millions of years ago, during a time called the Mesozoic Era. Can you imagine what the Earth was like back then?"

- "There were many different types of dinosaurs, some were herbivores (plant-eaters) and some were carnivores (meat-eaters). What do you think your favorite dinosaur ate?"
- "Dinosaurs came in all shapes and sizes, from the tiny Compsognathus to the giant Argentinosaurus. Which one do you think was the biggest?"
- "Fossils are the remains of dinosaurs that have been preserved in rock. What do you think we can learn from studying fossils?"
- "The extinction of dinosaurs is still a mystery. Some scientists believe it was caused by a meteor impact, while others think it might have been due to volcanic activity. What do you think happened?"
- "Dinosaurs are not entirely extinct! Birds are considered their modern-day descendants. Can you spot any similarities between birds and dinosaurs?"
- "Dinosaurs lived in various habitats like forests, deserts, and wetlands. What kind of habitat do you think you would like to live in if you were a dinosaur?"
- "Paleontologists are scientists who study fossils to learn more about dinosaurs. Would you like to be a paleontologist when you grow up?"
- "Some dinosaurs were social and lived in groups, while others were solitary. Do you think dinosaurs had friends?"
- "The study of dinosaurs helps us understand evolution and how life on Earth has changed over time. What do you think the Earth will be like in another million years?"
- "There are still many unanswered questions about dinosaurs. What is something you would like to discover about them?"
- "Dinosaurs have captured our imagination for generations. Why do you think people are so fascinated by them?"