

## Fun and interesting facts (Some facts about dinosaurs)

### 1. How many species of dinosaurs were there?

Although the exact number of species is unknown due to the inadequate fossil record, [paleontologists](#) estimate that there were about 700 species of [dinosaurs](#). These species differed in size, shape, and physical characteristics, such as scales, feathers, or armor.

### 2. From which language did the name ‘dinosaur’ originate?

The term dinosaur is obtained from the Greek language deinos (terrible) and sauros (lizard), so the name means terrible lizard. The term was discovered by [Sir Richard Owen](#), an English anatomist.

### 3. When were dinosaurs extinct from the earth?

Dinosaurs were a diverse group of reptiles that went extinct from Earth about 66 million years ago. They existed during the [Mesozoic Era](#), which includes the [Triassic](#), [Jurassic](#), and [Cretaceous periods](#).

### 4. Which was the largest land-based dinosaur?

The [Argentinosaurus](#) is considered to be one of the largest terrestrial dinosaurs. It is estimated to be about 30 to 40 metres in length, with a height of around 21 meters, and 90 to 100 metric tons in weight. The Argentinosaurus belonged to the titanosaur family of the Cretaceous period. It was a herbivore, which means it fed only on plants. Their fossils were found in [Argentina](#).

### 5. Which was the oldest dinosaur on land?

The oldest dinosaur is a subject of debate. Some of the earliest known dinosaurs are [Eoraptor](#) and [Nyasasaurus parringtoni](#). Eoraptor is thought to be one of the oldest dinosaurs, which lived on the Earth about 231 million years ago during the Triassic period. It is estimated to be about 3 feet in length and weigh about 10 kilograms. It was bipedal, had short hands with three fingers, and a long tail. It was an omnivore, and its fossils were discovered in Northwest Argentina. Similarly, Nyasasaurus parringtoni is another of the oldest dinosaurs, which lived on Earth about 243 million years ago during the Triassic period. It was estimated to be about 10 feet in length and 135 pounds in weight. Its fossils were discovered in [Tanzania](#).

## References

<https://www.britannica.com/animal/dinosaur>

<https://kids.britannica.com/scholars/article/dinosaur/106181>

<https://kids.britannica.com/students/article/Eoraptor/390681>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nyasasaurus>