

Understanding the World

Name & identify different dinosaurs and their features. Know how their features helped them to survive, e.g. long necks to feed from high trees, back plates for protection, etc.

Learn dinosaur facts from non-fiction books/computer. Find and copy internet images.

How do we know dinosaurs ever existed?

Sorting dinosaurs according to specific criteria, e.g. herbivore, carnivore or omnivore?

Discuss what it was like in the Jurassic period? How did the environment differ to ours today?

What happened to the dinosaurs that made them extinct?

Trip to the Natural History Museum

St. George and the Dragon

Check the date of Chinese New Year (dragon dance)

Communication, Language & Literacy

Role Play Area: Dinosaur Museum (excavate fossils)/Big Beast Land
Make own dinosaur fact book, design own beast and write a story
Wanted posters

Naming different dinosaurs (actions to tap out syllables)

Texts:

Harry and the Bucketful of Dinosaurs (within Harry box set)

Dinosaurs (selection of non-fiction texts), Yohance and the Dinosaurs by Alexis Obi

George and Dragon by Chris Wormell, Pete's Dragon, How to train your dragon (Dreamworks)

The Tiger Child by Joanna Troughton (cultural tale), The Tiger Who Came to Tea, Elmer, We're going on a bear hunt.

Giles Andreae wrote: Rumble in the Jungle, Mad About Megabeasts & Mad About Dinosaurs

The Gruffalo, Not now Bernard, Where the wild things are, Under the bed by Paul Bright

Monster Poems, But Martin by June Counsel (an alien starts school)

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

Calendar events: New Year's promises/resolutions and Valentine's Day cards.

Discuss favourite big beasts and why (likes, dislikes and preferences).

Read and discuss stories:

- Under the bed by Paul Bright (being scared of the dark and monsters under the bed).
- Dippy's Sleepover (about a dinosaur who worries about wetting the bed).

Trip preparation – travel, expectations, safety and the large dinosaur model that moves (some children may find this scary).

Hunt for dinosaur eggs/fossils (team work).

Protecting animals in danger of extinction today.

Not growling/roaring in others' ears/faces (personal space & appropriate play).

* RE lessons also taught from Come & See scheme.

Big Beasts (Monsters/Dragons & Dinosaurs)

Physical Development

Using equipment with increasing control: paintbrush, knife and fork, scissors, pens, pencils, markers, glue sticks, etc.

Fossils, eggs and bones in the sand tray - children to use archaeology actions: brush, wipe, blow, pick up with tweezers, etc.

Move like different dinosaurs – run, jump, fly, hunting stance, etc.

Going on our own Bear Hunt (use story as a stimulus) – actions and sounds as move through grass, mud, stream, etc.

Indoor & Outdoor PE lessons.

Harry and the Dinosaurs Have a Happy Birthday – hold wheelbarrow races as in the book (sensible speed, manoeuvre around cones?)

Mathematics

Counting dinosaurs and their features, e.g. legs, plates, teeth!
More/less – how many more/less?

Begin to understand the size & weight of different dinosaurs using reference points, e.g. as long as two double-decker buses, the same size as a chicken, etc.

Addition, subtraction and problem solving within the dinosaur context, e.g. How many dinosaur eggs altogether? How many left after half have been eaten? Etc.

Hear the language of time – be introduced to terms such as '65 million years ago', etc.

Follow recipe to make dinosaur biscuits and measure ingredients, e.g. how many cups of flour? How many spoonfuls of sugar?

Make own recipe for a dinosaur meal, e.g. a cupful of grass, 3 spoons of soil, five twigs and half a cup of stones?

Expressive Arts & Design

Sing dinosaur rhymes, e.g. 'Dinosaur, dinosaur turn around, dinosaur, dinosaur touch the ground...' 'If a dinosaur was my best friend...'

Perform monster poems (use instruments for rhythm?)

Make clay model dinosaurs.

Design and make your own beast (what would it look like? Where would it live? What would it eat? What would it do?)

Dinosaur badges, headbands, etc.

Mixing paints with other material to create different textures for dinosaur skin (sand, glitter, corn flour, oats).

Make dinosaur shaped biscuits (perhaps for a dinosaur party – Harry & the Dinosaur Birthday book)