

Dinosaurs

Adult Led Focus

- Talk about extinction and use the Internet to research animals that are at risk of extinction, as well as what could be done to save them.
- Make chocolate cornflake dinosaur nests with the children, complete with mini chocolate 'dinosaur' eggs. A lovely way of exploring the changes that take place when melting chocolate.
- This [Dinosaur Names PowerPoint](#) is a great way of helping children to learn the names of the different dinosaurs, whilst talking about their recognisable features, similarities and differences.
- These [Dinosaur Fossil Display Photos](#) would be a great talking point and also help children understand how people have learnt so much about dinosaurs.
- This ['What Am I?' PowerPoint Game](#) is fun way of encouraging children to apply what they have learnt about dinosaurs during the topic.
- These [Dinosaur Fact Display Photos](#) are a great way of learning more about dinosaurs.
- Explain the difference between herbivores and carnivores using animals and reptiles as examples. Find out what different dinosaurs ate. Look at how their physical features helped e.g. T-Rex's teeth for ripping meat and Brachiosaurus's long neck for reaching high branches.
- Make dinosaur biscuits by mixing dough and pressing dinosaur feet of small dinosaurs into it
- Visit BBC Nature website to access some 'Walking with dinosaurs' videos. Also cbeebies website

Indoor Enhancements

- Use a paint/drawing program on the IWB for children to draw pictures of different dinosaurs.
- Set up a small-world dinosaur environment. Use small world dinosaurs, logs, stones, artificial grass etc to make a scene
- Provide these [Dinosaur Word Cards](#) around the area too.
- This [Dinosaurs Bee-Bot Mat](#) and these [Bee-Bot Jackets](#) can be provided alongside your Bee-Bot, to encourage children to extend their programming skills.
- Provide this [Dinosaur Fossil Playdough](#) for children to use to make their own fossils. This is a great follow-up activity after looking at the [Dinosaur Fossil Display Photos](#) (See Adult Led Focus).
- Visit <http://www.usborne.com/quicklinks/eng> to find video footage of volcanoes
- Put out some real fossils for the children to investigate. Provide magnifying glasses.

Outdoor Enhancements

- Create a dinosaur jungle in the outdoor area for the children to explore. Help them to put together some explorer packs and some fact cards for the different dinosaurs they might meet. They could then use the clip boards to record any they find on their expedition.
- Encourage the children to think about what the different dinosaurs might find to eat in the outdoor area. What would the plant eaters eat? What about the meat eaters? They could use a camera or tablet to take photographs of anything they see that they think the dinosaurs might eat. These photos could then form the basis of an adult led activity.

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- Use percussion instruments to make the sound of the different dinosaurs. Encourage the children to think about which instrument would be best for the tiny dinosaurs, enormous dinosaurs, flying dinosaurs or swimming dinosaurs.
- Explore ways of moving to demonstrate the different types of dinosaurs. Adult uses a noisy 'magic wand' and holds up a picture of a dinosaur. The children move around in a way which they think would suit that dinosaur best.
- Create salt dough dinosaur fossils. The children roll out a piece of salt dough and then press small model dinosaurs into the dough to make an impression. When removed, the shape left behind resembles a dinosaur fossil. The salt dough could then be painted a light brown or grey colour.
- Make large scale volcano splatter pictures. Roll out a large sheet of paper. Add a volcano shape from brown paper and flick orange and red paint on

Indoor Enhancements

- Have a range of junk-modelling materials available, for children to create their own dinosaurs. These could be small scale or, if space permits, large scale.
- Provide a range of dinosaur images in the creative area as a stimulus.
- Have a selection of instruments available for children to experiment with, making the sounds which they think the different dinosaurs might have made.
- Provide Dinosaur pictures in the creative area as a stimulus for children to paint.
- Provide cotton buds, glue and black paper. The children can then create pictures of dinosaur skeletons using the cotton buds as the bones.
- Provide paper plates cut in half, along with dinosaur-coloured paints. The paper plate can make up the body of the dinosaur and the children can then cut out the different body parts from pieces of card to stick onto their dinosaur.
- Use this [Dinosaur Museum Role Play Pack](#) to create a museum within your setting. Provide dinosaur bones, footprints and fossils made from salt dough, along with magnifying glasses for the visitors. The children could record descriptions to accompany the 'artefacts'.

Outdoor Enhancements

- Have some small-world dinosaur figures available in the water area.
- Create a [Dinosaurs Park](#) in your outdoor area. Camouflage your cars or convert them into 'jeeps', provide binoculars and explorer packs for the visitors to the park and props such as dinosaur eggs, footprints, bones or teeth could be left around the park for the visitors to find.
- Place large sheets of paper on the floor along with large trays of paint. Wrap the children's shoes in bubble wrap and help them to step into the paint. They can then create dinosaur footprint patterns all over the large sheets of paper.
- Laminate some of the photos from the [Dinosaur Skeletons Photo Pack as a stimulus](#) and display them around the outdoor area. Then provide some chunky chalks for the children to use to draw dinosaur skeletons on the ground.