What Really Happened to the Dinosaurs?

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What REALLY Happened to the DINOSAURS?

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Meet Tracker John and D. J.

Hi, boys and girls. My name is Tracker John. My little dinosaur friend and I welcome you to one of the most interesting places in the world, the Institute for Creation Research (ICR). Don't be scared. Dino Jr. (just call him D. J. for short) is a friendly dinosaur. He is a psittacosaurus (sit-uh-ko-SAWR-us). These dinosaurs are often called parrot dinosaurs because of their noses. D. J. and I would like to show you what really happened to the dinosaurs!
Many special scientists work here at ICR. We call these scientists special because they are *creation* scientists. They believe what the Bible says. Each day they learn more about how God made the world with all its different animals and plants, and some of these scientists have spent many years studying about dinosaurs. We come here a lot to learn about dinosaurs, so join us as we see some of the many things that ICR scientists have learned about one of God’s mightiest creations—the dinosaurs.
PART 1
IN THE BEGINNING

In the Bible, right at the beginning, is a special book called Genesis. In this Book God tells us how He made the world and all the plants and animals in six days. This means He must have made lions, kangaroos, birds, dogs, and, yes — dinosaurs!

You have lots of questions, don’t you? I can hear you saying, “But Tracker John, how do we know dinosaurs existed?” “Where are they now?” “Why did God make them?” “When did God make them?” “Are there dinosaurs living today?” I love it when boys and girls ask me questions about dinosaurs, because the ICR scientists have taught D. J. and me how to find the answers.
Do you see what D.J. and I are looking at? That’s right, footprints! Great big footprints that were made by a great big animal with great big feet! What animal do you think made these footprints? You guessed it, a great big dinosaur! Even though dinosaurs may not be alive today, we still are able to learn many things about them.
What is a Dinosaur?

The word dinosaur means “terrible lizard.” When dinosaur bones were first found, about 150 years ago, scientists saw that they were different from animals alive today. But, because they looked a lot like huge lizards, they called them “dinosaurs,” which means “terrible lizards”! Since that time, scientists all over the world have found pieces of bones and sometimes even whole skeletons of dinosaurs. Some of them were giants, but some of them were small, often no bigger than a chicken. However, they were not like the lizards we see today. They had a different type of skeleton.
Trying to figure out what a dinosaur looked like, just by studying a few bones, is like trying to work a puzzle with most of the pieces missing. Sometimes even scientists make terrible mistakes. Brontosaurus was a mistake. His name had to be changed to Apatosaurus because the scientist who found his skeleton put the wrong head on it!