

Here are some of the concepts children can learn about during a dinosaur theme:

- herbivores vs. carnivores
- ways different dinosaurs move
- compare dinosaurs and other animals you have studied
- which dinosaurs were predators
- fossils
- volcanoes and lava
- extinction

## **SOCIAL**

### **Dinosaur video**

A video showing realistic dinosaurs and their characteristics

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HGMMxNkKseQ> **Target: sharing ideas**

### **Read a book about Dinosaurs- Target: taking turns**

#### **Dinosaur Hunts**

Try one or more of these games with your children.

Dinosaur bones - Hide paper "dinosaur bones" around your space for your children to find.

Variations: Hide plastic dinosaurs around the room

**Target: teamwork**

## **PHYSICAL**

### ***Gross Motor***

#### ***Dinosaur Feet***

<http://creeksidelearning.com/dinosaur-feet-craft/> **Target: balance**



#### ***Dinosaur Yoga***

<https://www.kidsyogastories.com/dinosaur-yoga/> **Target: coordination**

#### ***Dinosaur Dance...***

If you want to be a dinosaur, now is your chance,

'Cause every body's doin' the dinosaur dance.

Just stomp your feet, move your arms around.

Stretch up, stretch up and now touch the ground.

And you're doin' the dinosaur dance, oh yeah!

You're doin' the dinosaur dance.

OOOOOOO AAAAAHHHH OOOOOOO AAAAAHHHHH

OOOOOOO AAAAAHHHH OOOOOOO AAAAAHHHHH

You're doin' the dinosaur dance, oh yeah.

You're doin' the dinosaur dance.

(Dance around and do appropriate movements to the rhythm of the dinosaur chant.

During the ooooo's and aaaahhh's, stretch up to the right and down to the left. Continue dancing until the end.)

**Target: movement**

### ***Dinosaurs, Dinosaurs...***

(Tune: Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear)

Dinosaurs, dinosaurs, stomped around.

Dinosaurs, dinosaurs, shook the ground.

Dinosaurs, dinosaurs, some gave fear.

Dinosaurs, dinosaurs, we wish you were here.

**Target: movement**

### **Tissue Box Dino Feet**

<https://rainydaymum.co.uk/story-book-summer-edwina-dinosaur-didnt-know-extinct/>

**Target: co-ordination**



### ***Fine Motor***

### **Dinosaur finger paint**

<http://www.littlelifelonglearners.com/2015/08/dinosaur-craftivity.html/>

**Target: finger manipulation**



### **Dinosaur Eggs**

<https://theimaginationtree.com/frozen-dinosaur-eggs-sensory-play/>

**Target: grasping**



### **INTELLECTUAL**

### ***Cognitive***

### **Volcano**

<http://creeksidelearning.com/easy-volcano-experiment/>

**Target: sequencing**

### **Dinosaur Match**

<https://www.powerfulmothering.com/dinosaur-matching-puzzle-free-printable/>

**Target: matching**

### **Hatching Dinosaur Egg**

[https://frugalfun4boys.com/2016/03/06/fizzing-hatching-dinosaur-eggs-sensory-play/?utm\\_content=buffer6abaf&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=pinterest.com&utm\\_campaign=buffer](https://frugalfun4boys.com/2016/03/06/fizzing-hatching-dinosaur-eggs-sensory-play/?utm_content=buffer6abaf&utm_medium=social&utm_source=pinterest.com&utm_campaign=buffer)

**Target: Cause and effect**

### **Dinosaur defence**

Spend some time learning about different kinds of dinosaurs and how they differ from one another. Discuss how various dinosaurs defend themselves. Children can look at pictures of dinosaurs and shared how they thought that dinosaur would protect itself from a predator. The Ankylosaurus has a clubbed tail that it uses for defence. To help the children understand how a club at the end of the tail would give the dinosaur more power each child build a Lego tower of at least 5 blocks. Then each child got a straw and we tried to knock over the blocks using the

straw. (We did gentle taps with the wrist, not big swings with the arms). Then children added a small amount of play dough to the end of the straw, about the size of a medium bouncy ball. They then tried again to knock over the tower of blocks and found that with the “club” at the end of the tail like the Ankylosaurus they had a very powerful swing.

**Target: comparing**

### **Dino egg matching game**

You will need 10-12 large plastic eggs for this game and 2 each of 5-6 different kinds of dinosaur stickers.

Place the stickers on to the outside of the eggs

Have the children find the matching sets of dinosaur eggs

**Variation:** Purchase sets of 5-6 different kinds of small dinosaur figures. Place the figures inside the eggs. Have the children open the eggs to find the matching dinosaurs.

**Variation:** Hide the eggs around the room first for the children to find then have them find the matching dinosaurs.

**Target: matching**

## **Language**

### **Dinosaur song video**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4H0q9x3qVmU> **Target: repetition**

### **Dinosaur Finger Play**

The dinosaurs lived long ago, when life on earth began.

*(gesture palm up wave over your shoulder)*

Some were tall *(gesture high)*.

Some were small *(gesture low)*.

Some liked water *(gesture swimming)*.

Some liked land *(gesture walking by alternating palms on your knees)*.

Pteranadons had leathery wings *(gesture flying)*.

Brontausaurs, long necks *(gesture to neck)*.

But the meanest dinosaur of all *(gesture mean face)*.

Was Tyranosaurus Rex *(gesture heavy stomping by alternating palms on your knees)*.

**Target: vocabulary**

### ***I'd like to be a Dinosaur...***

(Tune: Mary had a Little Lamb)

I'd like to be a dinosaur, dinosaur, dinosaur.

And if I was a dinosaur, I would be a \_\_\_\_\_.

(Each child has a turn naming which dinosaur he would like to be)

**Target: labelling**

### **Act Like a Dinosaur**

Spread your arms, way out wide,

Fly like a Pteranodon, soar and glide.

Bend to the floor, head down low,  
Move like Stegosaurus, long ago.  
Reach up tall, try to be  
As tall as Apatosaurus eating on a tree.  
Using your claws, grumble and growl  
Just like Tyrannosaurus on the prowl.

**Target: Rhyming**

### **5 Little Dinosaurs**

Five enormous dinosaurs  
Letting out a roar--  
One went away, and  
Then there were four.  
Four enormous dinosaurs  
Crashing down a tree--  
One went away, and  
Then there were three.  
Three enormous dinosaurs  
Eating tiger stew--  
One went away, and  
Then there were two.  
Two enormous dinosaurs  
Trying to run--  
One ran away, and then there was one.  
One enormous dinosaur,  
Afraid to be a hero--  
He went away, and  
Then there was zero.

**Target: labelling**

### ***Dinosaurs...***

("Row Your Boat")  
Dinosaurs, dinosaurs  
Eating fruits and weeds  
Take a bite and chew it well  
And then spit out the seeds.

**Target: rhyming**

### ***Great Big Dinosaurs***

"Row, Row, Row Your Boat"  
Great Big dinosaurs  
Lived so long ago.  
Some liked land, and some liked water.  
Some flew in the air.  
Great big dinosaurs  
lived so long ago.  
Some had horns, and some had spikes.  
Some had wings like bats.  
Great big dinosaurs  
Lived so long ago.

Some ate plants, and some ate meat,  
But now there are no more.

**Target: repetition**

***Ten Dinosaurs...***

(Start w/ a number higher than the number of children so everyone will have a turn to remove a dinosaur.)

Ten (nine, eight, etc.) huge dinosaurs

Sleeping on a cave floor

Wake up and started to roar,

“There’s no room, no more, no more,

No more room on this floor!”

They tossed and turned and pushed galore,

(Move dinos around cave)

Till one poor dinosaur was shoved out the door.

(have a child remove a dinosaur)

(Continue down to 1 dinosaur LAST VERSE)

One huge dinosaur

Sleeping all alone, on a cave floor,

Wake up and started to roar,

“I’m lonely, come back, it was better before,

It’s more fun, crowded together, on the floor.”

(Children can put their dinosaurs back in the cave)

**Target: repetition**

***Tyrannosaurus Rex...***

Sung to: Mary had a Little Lamb:

Dinosaurs walked on this Earth,

On this Earth, on this Earth.

Dinosaurs walked on this Earth,

A long, long time ago.

Tyrannosaurus Rex was the king,

Was the king, was the king.

Tyrannosaurus Rex was the king,

A long, long time ago.

Tyrannosaurus (child’s name) was the king,

Was the king, was the king.

Tyrannosaurus (child’s name) was the king,

A long, long time ago.

**Target: repetition**

***The Dinosaur Song...***

(Tune: “The Wheels on the Bus “)

The tyrannosaurus rex had great big teeth,

Great big teeth, great big teeth.

The tyrannosaurus rex had great big teeth,

When the dinosaurs roamed.

Additional verses:

The apatosaurus had a very long tail.....

The diplodocus’ nostrils were on top of his head.....

The saltopus was as small as a cat.....

Dinosaurs- August 2020

**Target: vocabulary**

*Show the children pictures of each dinosaur as you sing the song*

## **CREATIVE**

**Dinosaur Hat**

<https://www.craftymorning.com/egg-carton-dinosaur-hat-craft-for-kids/>

**Target: decision making**



**Dinosaurs stuck in mud**

<http://www.learnwithplayathome.com/2015/04/dinosaurs-in-sticky-mud-sensory-play.html?m=1>

**Target: problem solving**

**Macaroni Skeletons**

Materials Needed: (uncooked) pasta- thin spaghetti, elbow macaroni, rigatoni, etc.

After reading about your favorite prehistoric dino, provide papers with dinos drawn on them. The children can create the skeleton bones from the pasta.

**Target: decision making**

**Fossil Dough**

<http://www.nuttinbutpreschool.com/how-to-make-fossil-dough/>

**Target: texture**

## **EMOTIONAL**

**Dinosaur Fossil**

Students practiced rolling out play dough and then pressed dinosaurs into the dough to make impressions, which we called fossils. In the past I have made dinosaur fossils with salt dough, but found it difficult to really distinguish the impressions, so this year we used homemade play dough. **Target: independence**



**Dinosaur Painting**

<http://adventuresandplay.com/dinosaur-painting-tuff-spot/>

**Target: self-expression**



**Dinosaur Hopscotch**

<https://www.raisingdragons.com/monster-footprint-hop/>

**Target: self confidence**

**Colorful Dinosaurs**

<https://www.fantasticfunandlearning.com/easy-dinosaur-craft-for-toddlers.html>

**Target: self expression**

