

Knowledge Organiser: Were Dinosaurs Real?



The word 'dinosaur' comes from the Greek language and means terrible lizard.



Fossils help us learn about the past history of life on Earth!



Mary Anning was a famous fossil hunter and paleontologist!



A fossil is the remains of a living thing. This could be a plant, animal or insect.

Mary Anning Timeline

On May 21st 1799, Mary Anning was born in Lyme Regis, Dorset in Southwest England.

1811 Mary Anning discovered a skeleton that she believed belonged to a crocodile, however it was a complete dinosaur!

1823 Anning discovered the first Plesiosaurus skeleton.

1828 Anning discovered the first Pterodactyl.

1847 Mary Anning died aged 47.

Mary Anning inspired the tongue twister 'she sells sea shells on the seashore.'



David Attenborough is a natural historian. He also has an animal named after him!

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Topic Vocabulary

Dinosaur - a reptile that lived millions of years ago

Fossil - remains of a plant or animal that has turned into rock over thousands of years.

Prehistoric - a time before any history has been recorded by humans.

Palaeontologist - a scientist who studies fossils.

Jurassic - the time in history when dinosaurs were alive (205-104 million years ago).

Discovered - found.

Fossil hunter - someone who looks for fossils.

Ichthyosaurus - a dinosaur that lived in the sea. Mary Anning found an Ichthyosaurus fossil!

Significant - important or special.

Coast - where the land meets the sea.

Evidence - information.

David Attenborough - a famous natural historian.

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Natural historian - someone who looks at nature from a long time ago.